LESSON TRANSCRIPT

Top 25 Cantonese Questions You Need to Know S1 #24
Have You Been to Hong Kong?

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A: Top 25 Cantonese Questions You Need to Know - Lesson 24: Have you been to Hong Kong? 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 "Have you been to Hong Kong?" In Cantonese this is

B: 你有冇去過香港?

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: 有冇

A: meaning "to have or to not have."

B: (Slow, by syllable) 有冇

A: Now repeat.

B: 有冇

{Pause}

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

B: 你有冇

{pause}

And next

B: 去過

A: meaning "been" as in "have been."

B: (Slow, by syllable) 去過

A: Now repeat.

B: 去過

{Pause}

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

B: 你有冇去過

{pause}

And next

B: 香港

A: which is "Hong Kong."

B: (Slow, by syllable) 香港

A: Now repeat.

B: 香港

{Pause}

Listen to the entire question and repeat.

B: 你有冇去過香港?

{pause}

A: You will hear this common question again and again throughout your studies. Master the following pattern and responses to the question Have you been to Hong Kong?

B: 有呀，去過兩次。

A: "Yes, I've been twice." Again, slowly. Repeat the phrase.

B: (Slow) 有呀，去過兩次。

{pause}

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

B: 有呀

A: means something like "Yes, I have." or "Yes, there is.

B: (Slow, by syllable) 有呀

A: Now repeat

B: 有呀

{Pause}

A: And after that

B: 去過

meaning "been." as in "have been."

B: (Slow, by syllable) 去過

A:Now repeat.

B: 去過

{Pause}

A: And after that

B: 兩次

meaning "twice."

B: (Slow, by syllable) 兩次

A:Now repeat.

B: 兩次

{Pause}

A: Listen to the speaker say, "Yes, I've been twice.", and then repeat.

B: 有呀，去過兩次。

{pause}

A: To use a different phrase, replace "twice" with "four times."

B: 四次

A: four times

B: (slow) 四次 (regular) 四次

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

B: 有呀，去過四次。

A: It mostly stays the same. Simply replace "twice" with "four times." Say "Yes, I've been four times."

{pause}

B: 有呀，去過四次。

A: To use a different phrase, replace "four times" with "once."

B: 一次

A: once

B: (slow) 一次 (regular) 一次

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

B: 有呀，去過一次。

A: It mostly stays the same. Simply replace "four times" with "once." Say "Yes, I've been once."

{pause}

B: 有呀，去過一次。

A: To say "no", in a simple way, just say:

B: 冇呀。

A: Which is like saying "No" as in "No, I have never been." in English. Let's hear it slowly.

B: (Slowly) 冇呀。

A: And one more time at normal speed:

B: 冇呀。
Please repeat:
B: 冇呀。
Pause
B: 冇呀。

Now it's time for a quiz. Imagine you're talking to a Cantonese native speaker, and he or she asks you "Have you been to Hong Kong?" You want to answer "Yes, I've been twice." Respond to the question.

B: 你有冇去過香港? (five seconds) 有呀，去過兩次。

A: Now you want to say "Yes, I've been four times." Respond to the question.

B: 你有冇去過香港? (five seconds) 有呀，去過四次。

A: You want to say "Yes, I've been once." Answer the speaker's question.

B: 你有冇去過香港? (five seconds) 有呀，去過一次。

A: You want to answer "No." Respond to the question.

B: 你有冇去過香港? (five seconds) 冇呀。

A: You want to ask someone if they have been to Hong Kong. Ask the question

(5 seconds)

B: 你有冇去過香港?

{pause}

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

B: 你有冇去過香港?

{pause}

A: This is the end of Lesson 24