

LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S1 #10 Going on a Business Trip in Hong Kong

CONTENTS

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

10

TRADITIONAL CHINESE

1. A: 你執行李要去邊度?
2. B: 我聽日要去日本出差。
3. A: 咁你要去幾耐?
4. B: 一個月就返喇。
5. A: 一個月先至返?
6. B: 眨下眼就過。
7. A: 咁你記得帶手信返嚟啦。

JYUTPING

1. A: nei5 zap1 hang4 lei5 jiu3 heoi3 bin1 dou6?
2. B: ngo5 ting1 jat6 jiu3 heoi3 jat6 bun2 ceot1 caai1.
3. A: gam2 nei5 jiu3 heoi3 gei2 noi6?
4. B: jat1 go3 jyut6 zau6 faan1 laa3.
5. A: nat1 go3 jyut6 sin1 zi3 faan1?
6. B: zaam2 haa5 ngaan5 zau6 gwo3.
7. A: gam2 nei5 gei3 dak1 daai3 sau2 seon3 faan1 lai4 laa3.

ENGLISH

CONT'D OVER

1. A: Where are you going with your luggage?
2. B: I'm leaving for Japan tomorrow on business.
3. A: Then how long will you be gone?
4. B: I'll be back in just a month.
5. A: As long as a month?
6. B: It'll be over quickly.
7. A: Just remember to bring some presents.

VOCABULARY

Traditional	Romanization	English	Class
旅行	lei5 hang4	to travel	verb
執	zap1	to pack (colloquial)	verb
收拾	sau1 sap6	to pack	verb
度假	dou6 gaa3	to pass a vacation; to travel for pleasure	verb
手信	sau2 seon3	souvenirs	noun
歐洲	au1 zau1	Europe	noun
日本	jat6 bun2	Japan	noun
出差	ceot1 caai1	business trip	noun
行李	hang4 lei5	luggage	noun

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>我最煩啲人旅行返嚟擺工藝品當手信。</p> <p><i>ngo5 zeoi3 fan4 di1 jan4 lei5 hang4 faan1 lai4 lo5 gung1 ngai6 ban2 dong3 sau2 seon3.</i></p> <p>I hate it when people buy craft-ware as souvenir gifts when they travel.</p>	<p>個袋你自己執㗎?</p> <p><i>go3 doi2 nei5 zi6 gei2 zap1 gaa4 ?</i></p> <p>Did you pack these bags yourself?</p>
<p>女人在收拾衣服。</p> <p><i>nei5 jan2 zoi6 sau1 sap6 ji1 fuk6.</i></p> <p>The woman is putting away the clothes.</p>	<p>你會去邊度度假啊?</p> <p><i>nei5 wui5 heoi3 bin1 dou6 dou6 gaa3 aa3 ?</i></p> <p>Where do you want to go on vacation?</p>
<p>每次我旅行嘅時候我都會買手信。</p> <p><i>mui5 ci3 ngo5 lei5 hang4 ge3 si4 hau6 ngo5 dou1 wui5 maa5 sau2 seon3.</i></p> <p>Whenever I go on vacation, I always buy souvenirs.</p>	<p>歐洲係喺地中海嘅北邊。</p> <p><i>au1 zau1 hai6 hai2 dei6 zung1 hoi2 ge3 baak1 bin1.</i></p> <p>Europe is north of the mediterranean ocean.</p>
<p>日本係喺香港嘅東北方。</p> <p><i>jat6 bun2 hai6 hai2 hoeng1 gong2 ge3 dung1 baak1 fong1.</i></p> <p>Japan is northeast of Hong Kong.</p>	<p>每次出差都好掛住屋企。</p> <p><i>mui5 ci3 ceot1 caai1 dou1 hou2 gwaa3 zyu6 uk1 kei5.</i></p> <p>I miss home every time I go out on business.</p>
<p>請托運你嘅行李。</p> <p><i>cing2 tok3 wan6 nei5 ge3 hang4 lei5.</i></p> <p>Please check-in your luggage.</p>	

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is "as soon as" and "as late as."

我一個月就返喇!

"I'll be back in just a month."

Our grammar point in this lesson is about time, and it specifically involves two words: 就 (*zau6*) and 先至 (*sin1 zi3*). We see these in our dialog where they mean "as soon as" or "as late as": 一個月就返喇 (*jat1 go3 jyut6 zau6 faan1 laa3*) "I'll be back in just a month." Or 一個月先至返 (*jat1 go3 jyut6 sin1 zi3 faan1*) "won't be back long as one month." Let's take a look at what's happening in a bit more detail. First, we have a length of the time, e.g. 一個月 (*jat1 go3 jyut6*) "one month"; this can be any length of time. e.g. 三個月 (*saam1 go3 jyut6*) "three months," 五年 (*ng5 nin4*) "five years," 十分鐘 (*sap6 fan1 zung1*) "ten minutes." And then we follow it with either 就 (*zau6*) 先至 (*sin1 zi3*). In the first case, if we use 就 (*zau6*) we're suggesting that this length of time is really short. Something is going to happen in as soon as this amount of time. For instance, 我十分鐘就到 (*ngo5 sap6 fan1 zung1 zau6 dou3*) "I'll be there in ten minutes." And the word 就 (*zau6*) implies that it's happening quickly, sooner than you expected. If you said the opposite, for example, 我十分鐘先至到 (*ngo5 sap6 fan1 zung1 sin1 zi3 dou3*) "It's going to take me as long as ten minutes." So changing the words changes the entire meaning of the sentence, by changing what you're implying, that the length of time is short or long.

More examples:

1. 我要五年先至再見到你。
ngo5 jiu3 ng5 nin4 sin1 zi3 zoi3 gin3 dou2 nei5
"I won't see you again in five years."
2. 我要五年先至畢業。
ngo5 jiu1 ng5 nin4 sin1 zi3 bat1 jip6
"I'll graduate in five years."

Bonus Point

If you're not sure about the exact length of time that something is going to take you, you can either say 好快 (*hou2 faai3*) "in a short time" or 好耐 (*hou2 noi6*) "in a long time" to indicate the approximate amount of time. For instance, when your boss asks about the contract you've preparing, you can say 好快就做完喇 (*hou2 faai3 zau6 zou6 jyun4 laa3*) "It'll get done soon." Or when if you are studying for a degree abroad and may not get to see your parents so often, you can say 我好耐先至返屋企一次 (*ngo5 hou2 noi6 sin1 zi3 faan1 uk1 kei2 jat1 ci3*) "I don't return home often."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Souvenirs from Hong Kong

No one likes to return home empty-handed and be called Scrooge, especially after leaving one of the shopping capitals of the world. Luckily, Hong Kong offers more than just tacky caps and t-shirts for tourists to remember their time in the city. Custom-made suits and *cheongsam*, Chinese knickknacks, real and fake antiques, electronic devices and accessories, dried seafood, etc are the best Hong Kong souvenirs and are ready for you to take home after you win a good old bargaining war with the traders.