

LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S1 #20 A Vegetarian Goes to Hong Kong

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TRADITIONAL CHINESE

1. 你唔食肉?
2. 我唔鍾意食肉。
3. 咁你唔食海鮮?
4. 我對海鮮敏感。
5. 咁你平時食咩啊?
6. 我食齋。

JYUTPING

1. nei5 m4 sik6 yuk6 ?
2. ngo5 m4 zung1 ji3 sik1 yuk6.
3. gam2 nei5 m4 sik1 hoi2 sin1 ?
4. ngo5 deoi3 hoi2 sin1 man5 gam2.
5. gam2 nei5 ping4 si4 sik6 me1 aa3 ?
6. ngo5 sik6 zaa1.

ENGLISH

CONT'D OVER

1. A: You don't eat meat?
2. B: I don't like to eat meat.
3. A: Then, do you like seafood?
4. B: I'm allergic to seafood.
5. A: Then, what do you normally eat?
6. B: I'm vegetarian.

VOCABULARY

Traditional	Romanization	English	Class
菜	coi3	vegetables	noun
敏感	man5 gam2	to be sensitive	adj
過敏	gwo3 man5	to be allergic	verb
平時	ping4 si4	normally	adv
食齋	sik6 zaai1	to be vegetarian	noun
肉	juk6	meat	noun
海鮮	hoi2 sin1	seafood	noun
水果	seoi2 gwo2	fruit	noun

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>估唔到菜仲貴過肉。 <i>gu2 m4 dou3 coi3 zung6 gwai3 gwo3 juk6.</i></p> <p>I can't believe vegetables cost more than meat!</p>	<p>佢對於所有關於政治嘅問題都好敏感。 <i>keoi5 deoi3 jyu1 so2 jau5 gwaan1 jyu1 zing3 zi6 ge3 man6 tai4 dou1 hou2 man5 gam2.</i></p> <p>He's sensitive about everything political.</p>
<p>佢皮膚對牛仔布過敏。 <i>keoi5 pei4 fu1 deoi3 ngau4 zai2 bou3 gwo3 man5.</i></p> <p>Her skin is allergic to denim.</p>	<p>佢平時唔化妝。 <i>keoi5 ping4 si4 m4 faa3 zong1.</i></p> <p>She doesn't wear make-up normally.</p>
<p>食齋會唔會影響健康? <i>sik6 zaai1 wui5 m4 wui5 jing2 hoeng2 gin6 hong1?</i></p> <p>Does going vegetarian affect one's health?</p>	<p>我唔食肉。 <i>ngo5 m4 sik6 juk6.</i></p> <p>I don't eat meat.</p>
<p>香港嘅海鮮好新鮮，好出名。 <i>hoeng1 gong2 ge3 hoi2 sin1 hou2 san1 sin1, hou2 ceot1 meng2.</i></p> <p>Hong Kong seafood is fresh and famous.</p>	<p>水果充滿維他命及礦物質，是一種健康食品。 <i>seoi2 gwo2 cung1 mun5 wai4 taa1 ming6 kap6 kwong3 mat6 zat1 , si6 jat1 zung2 gin6 hong1 sik6 ban2.</i></p> <p>Fruit is healthy and full of vitamins and minerals.</p>

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is 對...敏感/過敏

我對海鮮敏感。

"I'm allergic to seafood"

Our grammar point in this lesson is about a really common sentence pattern. In English it works completely differently. The pattern comes from this line in the dialogue: 我對海鮮敏感 *ngo5 deoi3 hoi2 sin1 man5 gam2* ("I'm allergic to seafood"). It's the same pattern if we use

the word "allergy" here: 我對海鮮過敏 *ngo5 deoi3 hoi2 sin1 guo3 man5*, ("I'm allergic to seafood"). Now notice that in English when we say I'm allergic "to" something or I'm sensitive "about" something, we are putting this after a verb. In Cantonese, it's in reverse order. We have the preposition here 對 *deoi3* ("to") and after that we put the object that we are allergic to. For instance, 對肉 *deoi3 juk6* ("to meat"), 對豬肉 *deoi3 zyu1 juk6* ("to pork"), 對牛肉 *deoi3 ngau4 juk6* ("to beef"), then we put the word 過敏 *gwo3 man5* or 敏感 *man5 gam2* ("to be allergic") after them.

For Examples:

1. 我對牛肉過敏。
ngo5 deoi3 ngau4 juk6 gwo3 man5
"I'm allergic to beef."
2. 我對花生過敏。
ngo5 deoi3 faa1 saang1 gwo3 man5
"I'm allergic to peanuts."
3. 我對海鮮過敏。
ngo5 deoi3 hoi2 sin1 gwo3 man5
"I'm allergic to seafood."
4. 你對乜嘢過敏？
nei5 deoi3 mat1 je5 gwo3 man5
"What are you allergic to?"
5. 你對乜嘢敏感？
nei5 deoi3 mat1 je5 man5 gam2
"What are you sensitive about?"
6. 佢對呢個話題好敏感。
keoi5 deoi3 ni1 go3 waa6 tai4 hou2 man5 gam2
"He's very sensitive about this topic."
7. 佢對呢個話題非常敏感。
keoi5 deoi3 ni1 go3 waa6 tai4 fei1 soeng4 man5 gam2
"He's extremely sensitive about this topic."

8. 佢對呢個話題太敏感。
keoi5 deoi3 ni1 go3 waa6 tai4 taai3 man5 gam2
"He's too sensitive about this topic."

Language Tip

This is tough for beginners, because you want to translate English sentences, but you can't. You've got to put this 對 (*deoi3*) in front of the verb or the adjective. And you can put adverbs like 好 (*hou2*) or 非常 (*fei1 soeng4*) in front of the verb or adjective to modify it.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Where's the Best Seafood in Hong Kong?

Some of the best seafood in Hong Kong is available not in the big city but rather in the smaller fishing ports that dot the mainland. In these, one of our favorite places to go for seafood is the small fishing town of Sai Kung. Located about a twenty minute drive across the mountains from the city (take the green minibus from Choi Hong), Sai Kung has a waterfront lined with family-owned restaurants who buy their supplies fresh each day. If you've spent a considerable amount of time in Hong Kong and haven't yet experienced life in one of these smaller and slower villages, it is well worth your time to take a Saturday or Sunday and visit on the weekend.