

## LESSON NOTES

# Upper Intermediate S1 #21 Do You Want to Have a Traditional Chinese Wedding?

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# 21

## TRADITIONAL CHINESE

1. A: HONEY, 我哋搞一個中式婚禮, 你覺得點呀?
2. B: 唔好, 我鍾意西式多啲, 我仲想著婚紗, 走花門, 宣誓呀。
3. A: 但係中式婚禮嘅話, 你仲可以著旗袍。你身材咁好, 唔著旗袍嘅晒啦!
4. B: 雖然係咁講, 但係咁我幾時可以著婚紗呀?
5. A: 影婚紗相嗰陣咪可以著囉, 你想試幾多件都得。
6. B: 好! 唔好反口呀。著婚紗結婚係我一世人嘅夢想呀!

## JYUTPING

1. A: HONEY, ngo5 dei6 gaau2 jat1 go3 zung1 sik1 fan1 lai5, nei5 gok6 dak1 dim2 aa6?
2. B: m4 hou2, ngo5 zung1 ji3 sai1 sik1 do1 di1, ngo5 zung6 soeng2 zoek3 fan1 saa1, zau2 faa1 mun4, syun1 sai6 aa6.
3. A: daan6 hai6 zung1 sik1 fan1 lai5 ge3 waa6, nei5 zung6 ho2 ji5 zoek3 kei4 pou2. nei5 san1 coi4 gam3 hou2, m4 zoek3 kei4 pou2 saai1 saai3 laa1!
4. B: seoi3 jin4 hai6 gam2 gong2, daan6 hai6 gam2 ngo5 gei2 si4 ho2 ji5 zoek3 fan1 saa1 aa6?

CONT'D OVER

5. A: jing2 fan1 saa1 soeng2 go2 zan6 mai6 ho2 ji5 zoek6 lo1, nei5 soeng2 si3 gei1 do1 gin6 dou1 dak1.
6. B: hou2! m4 hou2 faan2 hau2 aa6. zoek3 fan1 saa1 git3 fan1 hai6 ngo5 jat1 sai3 jan4 ge3 mung5 soeng2 aa6.

## ENGLISH

1. A: Honey, let's have a traditional Chinese wedding, what do you think?
2. B: No way, I like the western style, I want to wear a wedding gown, walk through a flower arch, and say the vows.
3. A: But if we do it the traditional way, you can wear a cheongsam. It'd be a waste not to show off your perfect body in a cheongsam.
4. B: That's true, but then when can I wear a wedding gown?
5. A: When we take our pre-wedding photos, you can try on as many gowns as you want.
6. B: Okay! Keep your promise. Getting married in a wedding gown is the dream of my life!

## VOCABULARY

Traditional	Romanization	English	Class
夢想	mung6 soeng2	dream	noun
西式	sai1 sik1	western style	phrase
婚禮	fan1 lai5	wedding	noun

婚紗	fan1 saa1	wedding gown	noun
宣誓	syun1 sai6	vow; to make a vow	noun; verb
旗袍	kei4 pou2	cheongsam; Chinese dress	noun
嘍	saai1	to waste	verb
婚紗相	fan1 saa1 soeng2	pre-wedding photos	noun
反口	faan2 hau2	to go back on one's word	verb
中式	zung1 sik1	Chinese style	phrase

## SAMPLE SENTENCES

要實現自己嘅夢想唔可以坐喺度咩都唔做,一定要非常努力先得。

*jiu3 sat6 jin6 zi6 gei2 ge3 mung6 soeng2 m4 ho2  
ji5 zo6 hai2 dou6 me1 dou1 m4 zou6 , jat1 ding6  
jiu3 fei1 soeng4 nou5 lik6 sin1 dak1.*

You must work hard to achieve your dreams, you can't just sit there doing nothing.

去迪士尼樂園過生日係我童年嘅夢想。

*heoi3 dik6 si6 nei4 lok6 jyun4 gwo3 saang1 jat6  
hai6 ngo5 tung4 nin4 ge3 mung6 soeng2.*

Spending my birthday at Disneyland was my childhood dream.

西式婚禮程序通常包括喺教堂行禮。

*sai1 sik1 fan1 lai5 cing4 zeoi6 tung1 soeng4  
baau1 kut3 hai2 gaau3 tong2 hang4 lai5.*

A Western-style wedding usually includes rituals at a church or chapel.

你諗好要點佈置你嘅婚禮現場未啊?

*nei5 lam2 hou2 jiu3 dim2 bou3 zi3 nei5 ge3 fan1  
lai5 jin6 coeng4 mei6 aa6 ?*

Have you thought over how you'd like to decorate the place where you'll be married?

<p>傳統婚紗一般都係白色，代表內心嘅純潔。</p> <p><i>cyun4 tung2 fan1 saa1 jat1 bun1 dou1 hai6 baak6 sik1, doi6 biu2 noi6 sam1 ge3 seon4 git3.</i></p> <p>Traditional wedding gowns are generally white, symbolizing purity.</p>	<p>除咗結婚，入籍公民前都有宣誓呢個過程。</p> <p><i>ceoi4 zo2 git3 fan1, jap6 zik6 gung1 man4 cin4 dou1 jau5 syun1 sai6 ni1 go3 gwo3 cing4.</i></p> <p>Other than getting married, the procedure of making a vow also takes place in citizenship ceremonies.</p>
<p>我想度身訂做一件旗袍結婚時著。</p> <p><i>ngo5 soeng2 dok6 san1 deng6 zou6 jat1 gin6 kei4 pou2 git3 fan1 si4 zoek3.</i></p> <p>I want to tailor-make a cheongsam to wear on my wedding.</p>	<p>千祈唔好辦健身房會員咭，肯定嘍錢。</p> <p><i>cin1 kei4 m4 hou2 baan6 gin6 san1 fong2 wui2 jyun4 kaat1, hang2 ding6 saai1 cin2.</i></p> <p>Don't join any gyms; it's a waste of money.</p>
<p>影一輯婚紗相大拿拿幾萬蚊，我寧願用嚟去旅行。</p> <p><i>jing2 jat1 cap1 fan1 saa1 soeng2 daai6 naa4 naa4 gei2 maan6 man1, ngo5 ning4 jyun2 jung6 lei4 heoi3 lei5 hang4.</i></p> <p>A series of wedding photos costs tens of thousands, I'd rather use the money for traveling.</p>	<p>佢成日都反口，真係信唔過。</p> <p><i>keoi5 sing4 jat6 dou1 faan2 hau2, zan1 hai6 seon3 m4 gwo3.</i></p> <p>He always goes back on his word, I found him untrustworthy.</p>
<p>糖水係一種普遍嘅中式甜品。</p> <p><i>tong4 seoi2 hai6 jat1 zung2 pou2 pin3 ge3 zung1 sik1 tim4 ban2.</i></p> <p>Sweet soup is a common Chinese dessert.</p>	

## GRAMMAR

**The Focus of this Lesson is 嘍晒 (saai1 saai3)**

**你身材咁好，唔著旗袍嘍晒啦！**

**"It'd be a waste not to show off your perfect body in a cheongsam."**

The expression 嘍晒 (saai1 saai3) means that something isn't cherished the way it deserves

to be, and that it has a greater value but that remains unseen. The English equivalent would be "it's such a pity." To construct the sentence, first talk about the advantage and merit of something, then follow by what's happening in reality, and finally finish the sentence with 嘅晒.

### For example:

1. 你身材咁好, 唔著旗袍嘅晒啦!  
*nei5 san1 coi4 gam3 hou2, m4 zoek3 kei4 pou2 saai1 saai3 laa1!*  
"It'd be a waste not to show off your perfect body in a *cheongsam*." (lit. "You have such a nice body, not wearing *cheongsam* is a waste.")

### Sample Sentences

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1. 你讀咁多書, 做侍應嘅晒啦!  
*nei5 duk6 gam3 do1 syu1, zou6 si6 jing3 saai1 saai3 laa1!*  
"You've studied so much, it's such a waste to work as a waiter!"
2. 佢咁靚女竟然同個肥佬一齊, 真係嘅晒!  
*keoi5 gam3 leng3 neoi5 ging2 jin4 tung4 go3 fei4 lou2 jat1 cai4, zan1 hai3 saai1 saai3!*  
"It's such a waste for a pretty girl like her to be dating that fat guy."

### Language Expansion

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Other than 嘅晒, there are many more phrases using the character 嘅 (*saai3*) "to waste," for example:

嘅錢	<i>saai1 cin2</i>	waste of money
嘅電	<i>saai1 din6</i>	waste of electricity

嘍氣	<i>saai1 hei3</i>	waste of energy (lit. "waste of breath")
嘍時間	<i>saai1 si4 gaan3</i>	waste of time
嘍口水	<i>saai1 hau2 sei2</i>	waste of energy in trying to convince or persuade someone (lit. "waste of saliva")
嘍心機	<i>saai1 sam1 gei1</i>	waste of effort

## CULTURAL INSIGHT

### Wedding Culture in Hong Kong

Many couples in Hong Kong opt to take pre-marital photos months before the big day. These are different from engagement photos, as the couple usually rents a wedding gown and suit for the photoshoot, and some even travel to a foreign country for nice background scenery. The couple usually has an option to change three or four times throughout the photoshoot, allowing them to try on as many gowns and suits as they want. Afterwards, the photos will be developed and framed, and then they'll be displayed at the couple's wedding reception.