

LESSON NOTES

Upper Intermediate S1 #6 Fixing a Leak in Hong Kong

CONTENTS

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

6

TRADITIONAL CHINESE

1. A: 我廁所條水喉唔知出咗咩事，啲水流極都流唔落去，可唔可以幫我通通啊？
2. B: 冇問題，報個價比你先，一次維修500蚊。
3. A: 啊，仲有仲有！我浴缸嘅水龍頭都好有問題，唔知點解會漏水，好煩啊。
4. B: 等我過嚟幫你檢查下先，你晏晝四點鐘嚟唔嚟屋企？
5. A: 弊！天花板開始漏水！你即刻過嚟啊！

JYUTPING

1. A: ngo5 ci3 so2 tiu4 sei2 hau4 m4 zi1 ceot1 zo2 me1 si6, di1 sei2 lau4 gik6 dou1 lau4 m4 lok6 heoi3, ho2 m4 ho2 ji5 bong1 ngo5 tung1 tung1 aa3?
2. B: mou4 man6 tai4, bou3 go3 gaa3 bei2 nei5 sin1, jat1 ci3 wai4 sau1 ng5 baak3 man1.
3. A: aa3, zung6 jau5 zung6 jau5! ngo5 juk6 gong1 ge3 sei2 lung4 tau4 dou1 hou2 jau5 man6 tai4, m4 zi1 dim2 gai2 wui5 lau6 sei2, hou2 faan4 aa3.
4. B: dang2 ngo5 gwo3 lai4 bong1 nei5 gim2 caa4 haa5 sin1, nei5 aan3 zau3 sei3 dim2 zung1 hai2 m4 hai2 uk1 kei2?
5. A: bai6! tin1 faa1 baan2 hoi1 ci2 lau6 sei2! nei5 zik1 haak1 gwo3 lai4 aa6!

ENGLISH

CONT'D OVER

1. A: I don't know what happened to the pipe in my wash room. Why isn't the water flowing out? Can you help me clear the pipes?
2. B: No problem. I'll give you a quote. Each active maintenance is HK \$00.
3. A: All right. My bathtub faucet also has a problem. I don't know why, but it leaks. It's really bothersome.
4. B: I'll come over and check it out for you. Will you be home at four p.m.?
5. A: Oh no! The ceiling started to leak. You should come over now.

VOCABULARY

Traditional	Romanization	English	Class
裝修	zong1 sau1	to renovate	verb
通渠	tung1 keoi4	to clean a pipe	verb
物業	mat6 jip6	property manager	noun
維修	wai4 sau1	to maintain	verb
師傅	si1 fu2	master	noun
水喉	seoi2 hau4	pipe	noun
水渠	seoi2 keoi4	big pipe	noun
水龍頭	seoi2 lung4 tau4	faucet	noun

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>要監督裝修師傅，防止偷工減料。 <i>jiu3 gaam1 duk1 zong1 sau1 si1 fu2, fong4 zi2 tau1 gung1 gaam2 liu2.</i></p> <p>You need to supervise renovation workers to keep them from cutting corners on materials.</p>	<p>周街都有通渠佬嘅廣告啦。 <i>zau1 gaai1 dou1 jau5 tung1 keoi4 lou2 ge3 gwong2 gou3 laa1</i></p> <p>There are ads for plumbers all over the streets.</p>
<p>每個月交兩百蚊物業費，結果有事起嚟影都唔見。 <i>mui5 go3 jyut6 gaau1 loeng5 baak3 man1 mat6 jip6 fai3, git3 gwo2 jau5 si6 hei2 lai4 jing2 dou1 m4 gin3</i></p> <p>I pay 200 HKD monthly in property management fees, but it's no use when I am in need.</p>	<p>一般電器都至少有一年嘅免費保養同維修。 <i>jat1 bun1 din6 hei3 dou1 zi3 siu2 jau5 jat1 nin4 ge3 min5 fai3 bou2 joeng5 tung4 wai4 sau1</i></p> <p>Most electronics come with at least a 1-year warranty for maintenance and repair.</p>
<p>我師傅今年九十歲。 <i>ngo5 si1 fu2 gam1 nin4 gau2 sap6 sei3</i></p> <p>My master is ninety years old this year.</p>	<p>水喉穿咗個窿，所以先至會漏水。 <i>sei2 hau4 cyun1 zo2 go3 lung1, so2 ji5 sin1 zi3 wui5 lau6 sei2</i></p> <p>The reason it leaks is that there's a hole in the water pipe.</p>
<p>你千奇唔好將啲電線接係水渠上面。 <i>nei5 cin1 kei4 m4 hou2 zeong1 di1 din6 sin3 zip3 hai2 sei2 keoi4 seong6 min6.</i></p> <p>You should never connect an electric wire to a water pipe.</p>	<p>水龍頭流出嚟嘅水你都夠膽直接飲？ <i>sei2 lung4 tau4 lau4 ceot1 lai4 ge3 sei2 nei5 dou1 gau3 daam2 zik6 zip3 jam2?</i></p> <p>You dare to drink tap water?</p>

GRAMMAR

**The Focus of this Lesson is 極都..唔
啲水流極都流唔落去
"It seems to be stuck."**

Our grammar point in this lesson is a little complex. We will take it step by step. In previous lesson, we've learned about verb complements, e.g. 食唔飽 *sik6 m4 baau2* ("to eat but not be full"), 講唔清楚 *gong2 m4 cing1 co2* ("to speak but not be clear"). These are verbs and their complements, and specifically we are talking about the negative forms in this lesson. At easier levels, we've stopped there with simple sentences 我食唔飽 *ngo5 sik6 m4 baau2* ("I can't eat full"), 佢講唔清楚 *keoi5 gong2 m4 cing1 co2* ("He's not making any sense to me").

In this lesson at the intermediate level, we want to step things up with the more complex structure. This structure is used to express "no matter what you do, you can't do something." There is no subject in that sentence, let's take a look at the pattern here—first comes the verb 食 then 極都, and then our normal verb and its complement in a negative form. So we've got a two-part structure. This is a general pattern you can use with any verb that takes a complement in a negative form. You do something, but "no matter how hard you are trying +verb+negative complement."

Here are a few short examples:

1. 食極都食唔飽。
sik6 gik6 dou1 sik6 m4 baau2
"No matter how much I eat, I can't eat my fill."
2. 講極都講唔清楚。
gong2 gik6 dou1 gong2 m4 cing1 co2
"No matter how hard I try to explain, I can't make it clear."
3. 條水管整極都整唔好。
tiu4 seoi2 gun2 zing2 gik6 dou1 zing2 m4 hou2
"This pipe, no matter how hard I try to fix it, I can't fix it."
4. 部地鐵逼極都逼唔上。
bou6 dei6 tit3 bik1 gik6 dou1 bik1 m4 soeng5
"No matter how hard I try to cram onto the subway, I can't."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Calling in a Handyman in Hong Kong

When you move into a new apartment or your current apartment requires handyman work, you might have come to recognize that it is just as cost effective to engage a handyman service for simple tasks such as fixing the pipe, replacing of light fittings, putting up pictures, curtain rods and so on. There are plenty of professional handyman service providers in Hong Kong and all you need is just to make a phone call and they will arrange an appropriate time, and offer advice and a free quote. For example, a comprehensive, professional and affordable plumbing service that includes installing new copper pipes (high quality British copper pipes) for hot and cold fresh water use or installing PVC pipes for salt water use where the problem arises might cost about HKD350-550 per hour.