

LESSON NOTES

Upper Intermediate S1 #7 Don't Be Late in Hong Kong!

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TRADITIONAL CHINESE

1. A: 你搞乜啊，遲晒大到。
2. B: 對唔住啊，我尋晚通頂趕論文啊。
3. A: 你仲搞學術？你個學術委員會都想你發達㗎！
4. B: 但係...
5. A: 如果我哋今次條橋可以做得成，到時候你想教邊個系都得啦！買起成個學院都得啊！
6. B: 我明...
7. A: 明你仲搞亂檔？我今朝打鑼咁搵你啊。條橋你諗出嚟㗎嘛！
8. B: 不過我唔想我篇論文半途而廢㗎。
9. A: 我哋要擺風投、並購。
10. B: 但係...
11. A: 信我啦。好快Google就會想收購我哋㗎喇！

JYUTPING

1. A: nei5 gaau2 mat1 aa3, ci4 saai3 daai6 dou3.
2. B: deoi3 m4 zyu6 aa3, ngo5 cam4 maan5 tung1 deng2 gon2 leon6 man2 aa3.

CONT'D OVER

3. A: nei5 zung6 gaau2 hok6 seot6 ? nei5 go3 hok6 seot6 wai2 jyun4
wui5 dou1 soeng2 nei5 faat3 daat6 gaa2 !
4. B: daan6 hai6...
5. A: jyu4 gwo2 ngo5 dei6 gam1 ci3 tiu4 kiu2 ho2 ji5 zou6 dak1 seng4,
dou3 si4 hau6 nei5 soeng2 gaau3 bin1 go3 hai6 dou1 dak1 laa1 !
maai5 hei2 seng4 go3 hok6 jyun2 dou1 dak1 aa3!
6. B: ngo5 ming4...
7. A: ming4 nei5 zung6 gaau2 lyun6 dong3 ? ngo5 gam1 ziu1 daa2 lo2
gam2 wan2 nei5 aa3. tiu4 kiu2 nei5 lam2 ceot1 lei4 gaa1 maa3 !
8. B: bat1 gwo3 ngo5 m4 soeng2 ngo5 pin1 leon4 man2 bun3 tou4 ji4
fai3 wo3.
9. A: ngo5 dei6 jiu3 lo2 fung1 tau4, bing3 kau3.
10. B: daan6 hai6...
11. A: seon3 ngo5 laa1. hou2 faai3 GOOGLE zau6 wui5 soeng2 sau1
kau3 ngo5 dei6 gaa3 laa6.

ENGLISH

1. A: What's wrong with you? Why are you so late?
2. B: I'm really sorry. I stayed up last night writing my thesis.

CONT'D OVER

3. A: Why are you worried about academics? You think your committee doesn't want you to be rich?
4. B: Well...
5. A: If we commercialize this, you can teach at any department you want or buy one.
6. B: Well...I know that.
7. A: So why are you trying to tank this deal? I needed you this morning. You're the inventor!
8. B: I just don't want to stop writing my paper halfway through.
9. A: We'll get venture capital, get in talks for an acquisition.
10. B: But...
11. A: Trust me. In no time, we'll be purchased by Google.

VOCABULARY

Traditional	Romanization	English	Class
橋	kiu2	idea	noun
論文	leon6 man2	thesis	noun
通頂	tung1 deng2	to pull an all nighter	other
學術	hok6 seot6	academics	noun
搞亂檔	gaau2 lyun6 dong3	to mess things up	other

半途而廢	bun3 tou4 ji4 fai3	to stop something mid way through	verb
風投	fung1 tau4	venture capital	noun
並購	bing3 kau3	acquisition	noun
收購	sau1 kau3	to acquire	verb

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>你除咗呢啲屎橋之外有冇啲必殺技啊?</p> <p><i>nei5 ceoi4 zo2 ni1 di1 si2 kiu2 zi1 ngoi6 jau5 mou5 di1 bit1 saat3 gei6 aa3 ?</i></p> <p>Do you have any more surefire ideas, or just this crappy one?</p>	<p>個教授要求寫一篇三十頁嘅論文啊。</p> <p><i>go3 gaau3 sau6 jiu1 kau4 se2 jat1 pin1 saam1 sap6 jip6 ge3 leon6 man2 aa3</i></p> <p>The professor asked for a 30 page thesis.</p>
<p>下個禮拜考試你仲唔開始溫書，到時又要通頂啊。</p> <p><i>haa6 go3 lai5 baai3 haau2 si5 nei5 zung6 m4 hoi1 ci2 wan1 syu1, dou3 si4 jau6 jiu3 tung1 deng2 aa3</i></p> <p>If you don't prepare for next week's exam now, you'll have to pull an all nighter later.</p>	<p>學術界不嬲都鍾意對小說嘅人物進行解構再解構。</p> <p><i>hok6 seot6 gaai3 bat1 lau1 dou1 zung1 ji3 deoi3 siu2 syut6 ge3 jan4 mat2 zeon3 hang4 gaai2 gau3 zoi3 gaai2 gau3</i></p> <p>The academic world is eager to deconstruct characters in fiction.</p>
<p>你除咗識得搞亂檔仲識乜啊?</p> <p><i>nei5 ceoi4 zo2 sik1 dak1 gaau2 lyun6 dong3 zung6 sik1 mat1 aa3</i></p> <p>What else do you know except for messing things up?</p>	<p>一個半途而廢嘅人係唔會成功嘅。</p> <p><i>jat1 go3 bun3 tou4 ji4 fai3 ge3 jan4 hai6 m4 wui5 sing4 gung1 ge3</i></p> <p>People who give up halfway don't succeed.</p>

香港有好多風投嘅大公司，主動搵下啦。

hoeng1 gong2 jau5 hou2 do1 fung1 tau4 daai6 gung1 si1, zyu2 dung6 wan2 haa5 laa1

There are plenty of VC firms in Hong Kong. Go approach them.

呢個集團試過好多次跨國並購。

ni1 go3 zaap6 tyun4 si3 gwo3 hou2 do1 ci3 kwaa1 gwok3 bing3 kau3

This corporation has attempted several international mergers.

有個有錢人叫李嘉誠，收購咗好多大陸嘅物業。

jau5 go3 jau5 cin2 jan4 giu3 lei5 gaa1 sing4, sau1 kau3 zo2 hou2 do1 daai6 luk6 ge3 mat6 jip6.

There is a wealthy man called Li Ka-shing who has acquired much property in mainland China.

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is 遲晒大到

你搞乜啊，遲晒大到。

"What's wrong with you? Why are you so late?"

In this lesson, our grammar point will focus on vocab. We had this expression in the first line of the dialog: 你搞乜啊，遲晒大到 *nei5 gaau2 mat1 aa3,ci4 saai3 daai6 dou3* ("why are you so late"). We could just say "why are you late," but here we add the word "complete" and "big" into the middle of the verb, which means it's really really late. You may also hear people say 亂晒大籠 *lyun6 saai3 daai6 lung4* ("to make a big mess"). If you are forced to wait in line, you might say 排晒大隊 *paai4 saai3 daai6 deoi6* ("to wait in an exceedingly long line"). And there is one more expression that is very commonly used, which is 離晒大譜 *lai4 saai3 daai6 pou2* ("extremely ridiculous"). These are useful expressions to exaggerate people's actions involved.

Here are a few sample sentences:

1. Google 最近嘅並購亂晒大籠。
Google zeoi3 gan6 ge3 bing3 kau3 lyun6 saai3 daai6 lung4
"Google made a mess of its latest acquisition."

2. 佢篇論文亂晒大籠，所以要半途而廢。
keoi5 pin1 leon6 man4 lyun6 saai3 daai6 lung4, so2 ji5 jiu3 bun3 tou4 ji4 fai3
"He made a mess of his thesis and consequently dropped out."
3. 班學生排晒大隊去見教授。
baan1 hok6 saang1 paai4 saai3 daai6 deoi2 heoi3 gin3 gaau3 sau6
"The group of students lined up to meet the professor."
4. 成半年都有上堂？離晒大譜！
seng4 bun3 nin4 dou1 mou5 soeng5 tong4? Lai4 saai3 daai6 pou2
"Not attending class for half a year? That's ridiculous."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

How Important is Punctuality in Hong Kong?

Being punctual is highly valued in Hong Kong and it is expected people will report to work on time, complete work processes on time, get products to market on time, and respond to customers in a timely manner.

While doing business, being late for appointments may be viewed as disrespectful. Don't be an optimist. Things in Hong Kong usually take significantly longer than you'd expect, even without major delays. If you do arrive late for a meeting, apologize profusely for inconveniencing your counterparts.

However, punctuality for social events in Hong Kong is slightly more relaxed. It is acceptable to arrive up to half an hour later than the official start time of an event.