

LESSON NOTES

Upper Intermediate S1 #8 Everything is on Sale in Hong Kong!

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TRADITIONAL CHINESE

1. A: 部手提電腦幾靚㗎，幾時買㗎？
2. B: 今年年初。我買嗰陣啱啱好有活動，電子產品全線降價，平咗三成。
3. A: 咁你咪執到？呢啲益街坊嘅優惠好少有㗎。
4. B: 商家梗係唔會傻到蝕本啦。鼠標、螢幕保護膜同埋個電腦袋，加加埋埋都唔少錢啦。
5. A: 人地出隻雞，你出豉油都好應該啊。部機好用咪得囉。
6. B: 好用至奇。電池頂唔够兩粒鐘，散熱又差。總之平嘢冇好嘢啦。

JYUTPING

1. A: bou6 sau2 tai4 din6 nou5 gei2 leng3 wo3, gei2 si4 maai5 gaa3?
2. B: gam1 nin2 nin4 co1, ngo5 maai5 go2 zan6 ngaam1 ngaam1 hou2 jau5 wut6 dung6, din6 zi2 caan2 ban2 cyun4 sin3 gong3 gaa3, peng4 zo2 saam1 sing4
3. A: gam2 nei5 mai6 zap1 dou3? ni1 di1 jik1 gai1 fong1 ge3 jau1 wai6 hou2 siu2 jau5 gaa3
4. B: soeng1 gaa1 gang2 hai6 m4 wui5 so4 dou3 sik6 bun2 laa1. syu2 biu1, ping4 mok6 bou2 wu6 mok6 tung4 maai4 go3 din6 nou5 doi6, gaa1 gaa1 maai4 maai4 dou1 m4 siu2 cin2 laa1

CONT'D OVER

5. A: jan4 dei6 ceot1 zek3 gai1, nei5 ceot1 si6 jau4 dou1 hou2 jing1
goi1 aa1. bou6 gei1 hou2 jung6 mai6 dak1 lo1
6. B: hou2 jung6 zi3 kei4. din6 ci4 ding2 m4 gau3 loeng5 lap1 zung1,
saan3 jit6 jau6 caa1. zung2 zi1 peng4 je5 mou5 hou2 je5 laa1

ENGLISH

1. A: Nice laptop! When did you get it?
2. B: At the beginning of this year, they were having a promotion on electronics. I got thirty percent off this one.
3. A: What a steal. You don't see this kind of sale very often.
4. B: The store isn't dumb enough to lose money. I also bought a mouse, monitor protection screen, and laptop bag. Those weren't cheap at all.
5. A: That makes sense. After all, you got a bargain. At least the machine is good.
6. B: But it isn't. The battery doesn't even last for two hours, and the heat dissipation is awful. Anyway, I got what I paid for.

VOCABULARY

Traditional	Romanization	English	Class
全線	cyun4 sin3	the entire line	noun
鼠標	syu2 biu1	mouse (computer)	noun

鍵盤	gin6 pun2	keyboard (computer)	noun
螢幕	jing4 mok6	screen	phrase
益	jik1	to benefit	verb
蝕	sit6	to lose money	verb
保護膜	bou2 wu6 mok2	protection screen	noun
至奇	zi3 kei4	it would be strange if	other
散熱	saan3 jit6	heat dissipation	noun
加加埋埋	gaa1 gaa1 maai4 maai4	in total	phrase

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>呢隻型號嘅相機香港全線冇貨。 <i>ni1 zek3 jing4 hou6 ge3 soeng2 gei1 hoeng1 gong2 cyun4 sin3 mou5 fo3</i></p> <p>This camera model is out of stock all over Hong Kong.</p>	<p>呢個無線鼠標需要新電池。 <i>ni1 go3 mou4 sin3 syu2 biu1 sei1 jiu3 san1 din6 ci4.</i></p> <p>The wireless mouse needs new batteries.</p>
<p>點解個鍵盤用唔到嘅? <i>dim2 gaa2 go3 gin6 pun2 jung6 m4 dou2 ge2 ?</i></p> <p>Why isn't the keyboard working?</p>	<p>呢個螢幕好清晰。 <i>Nei1 go3 jing4 mok6 hou2 cing1 sik1.</i></p> <p>This screen is very clear.</p>
<p>茉莉茶好香好甜，對身體好有益。 <i>mut6 lei6 caa4 hou2 hoeng1 hou2 tim4, doi3 san1 tai2 hou2 jau5 jik1.</i></p> <p>Jasmine tea is fragrant and sweet, and good for your body.</p>	<p>股票大跌，蝕到破產。 <i>gu2 piu3 daai6 dit3, sik6 dou3 po3 caan2</i></p> <p>The stock market is falling. I'm losing so much money that I'm broke.</p>

<p>手機貼保護膜係多此一舉。 sau2 gei1 tip3 bou2 wu6 mok2 hai6 do1 ci2 jat1 geoi2</p> <p>Screen protectors for cellphones are unnecessary.</p>	<p>次次借錢都唔還，今次我信你至奇。 ci3 ci3 ze3 cin2 dou1 m4 waan4, gam1 ci3 ngo5 seon3 nei5 zi3 kei4</p> <p>You never pay me back. I don't trust you this time.</p>
<p>點先可以幫助部電腦散熱啊？ dim2 sin1 ho2 ji5 bong1 zo6 bou6 din6 nou5 saan3 jit6 aa3</p> <p>How can I cool off my laptop?</p>	<p>去南丫島加加埋埋十個人左右。 heoi3 naam4 aa1 dou2 gaa1 gaa1 maai4 maai4 sap6 go3 jan4 zo2 jau6</p> <p>In sum, there will be about ten people going to the Lamma Island.</p>

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is 咪

咁你咪執到。

"What a steal."

We are talking about this specific character in this lesson: 咪 *mai6* ("do not"). Earlier, we learned that it means "do not." For example, in 咪開門啊 *mai6 hoi1 mun4 aa3* ("do not open the door"), 咪 means 唔好 *m4 hou2* ("do not"). But it makes this lesson strange when we look at the dialog. In our dialog we run into it but it's not been used in a negative sense at all; instead, it's been used in a positive sense. As in this sentence in our dialog, 咁你咪執到 *gam2 nei5 mai6 zap1 dou3* ("then you pick it up from the street"). So, in this usage, even though the word is technically supposed to be negative, the meaning here is not negative at all. We are using this in a rhetorical sense and this is what we see in our next sentence as well. 好用咪得囉 *hou2 jung6 mai6 dak1 lo1* ("as long as it's good, it's ok"). So the key thing to remember here is 咪 *mai6* is not always used in a negative way, sometimes we run into it in a positive sense.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

When are the Hong Kong Sales?

The main shopping season gets going in the run up to the Chinese New Year in February. Here you'll see plenty of sales signs, slashed prices and two-for-one offers; it's also worth looking out for vouchers in the red lai see packages traditionally given out by stores in the run up to New Year. The more serious sales season falls in the summer (July-August) and are now complimented by a dedicated Hong Kong Tourism Board festival. Sales signs sweep through the city, vouchers are piled up in malls and shops open their doors for a few extra hours at night, until at least 10p.m. Major discounts of fifty percent plus, particularly on end-of-season fashion items, can easily be picked up.