Talk to Me in Cantonese 跟我説廣東話

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Contents

Preface	X
How to use this book	Xi
Chapter 1 I've asked Si Si to buy some batteries 1	
Dialogue	1
Story: I met Gee at the bus stop	2
Vocabulary	4
Grammar practice	5
I. yáuh móuh 有冇 + verb (Have you ?)	5
II. verb + dóu 到 (to be able to, manage to)	6
III. wah 話 (to say)	7
IV. wah 話jī 知 (to tell)	7
V. mahn 問 (to ask a question)	7
VI. giu 叫 (to ask or to order someone to do something)	7
VII. bōng 幫 (to help; to assist)	8
VIII. To modify something with "ge 嘅"	9
IX. yáu dāk kéuih 由得佢 (let it be; never mind)	9
X. gam ngāam 咁啱 (by coincidence)	9
Pyramid drill	10
General review	11
Answers	12
Hong Kong culture: Hong Kong Book Fair and Ani-Com and Games Hong Kong	16
Chapter 2 Can you lend me an umbrella? 17	
Dialogue	17
Story: On a rainy day	19
Vocabulary	22
Grammar practice	23
I. meih 未 (not yet)	23
II. yùhn 完 (finish)	24

III. Compare the usage of "yùhn 完" and "jó 咗"	25			
IV. je 借 (to lend or to borrow)	25			
V. jauh 就 (then, soon after)	26			
VI. dāk 得 (only have)	27			
VII. bāt-yùh 不如 (to suggest)	27			
VIIIge sìh-hauh 嘅時候 (at the time when)	27			
Pyramid drill	28			
General review	29			
Answers	31			
Hong Kong culture: Rainstorms and typhoons	36			
Chapter 3 Does this bus go to Stanley? 37				
Dialogue	31			
Story: Falling asleep on a minibus	39			
Vocabulary	41			
Grammar practice	42			
I. juhng 仲 (still more)	42			
II. Specifying an object with a measure word	43			
III. gān-jyuh 跟住 (to follow; and then)				
IV. yāt-dihng 一定 (certainly; definitely)	44			
V. dím 點 (how)	44			
VI. ·····ja ℉ (only)	45			
Pyramid drill	40			
General review	47			
Answers	49			
Hong Kong culture: How Stanley赤柱 got its name	53			
Chapter 4 Please repeat 54				
Dialogue	54			
Story: Wong Sum Yee calling Ming	57			
Vocabulary	59			
Grammar practice	60			
I. verb + háh 吓 (to do something casually)	60			
II. joi 再 + verb + gwo 過 (to do something again)	60			
III. yāt 一jauh 就 (immediately after; once then)	63			
IV. béi 畀 (by someone, usually the situation is not good)	61			
Review: Other usage of "béi 畀"	62			
V. cho 錯 (wrong; mistake)	63			
VI. mh-tùhng 唔同 (different)	63			
VII. jīk-hāak 即刻 (immediately)	64			

	Contents	Vii
Pyramid drill		65
General review		66
Answers		68
Hong Kong culture: Useful facts about phone numbers		74
8 - 8 - m - m - m - m - m - m - m - m -		
Chapter 5 Taking sick leave 75		
Dialogue		75
Story: Suffering from a fever		77
Vocabulary		80
Grammar practice		81
I. adjective/verb + dou 到 (to an extent)		81
II. verb + gán 緊 (action in progress)		81
III. verb + jó 咗meih 未? (Have you done something yet?)		82
Compare the usage of yáuh móuh 有有 + verb and verb + jó 咗meih 未		83
IV. sèhng 成 + noun (whole; entire)		84
V. juhng 仲 (still no change; continue to be)		85
VI. ·····tīm 添 (in addition; and more)		85
VII. tùhng 同 (towards)		86
Review: "tùhng 同" meaning "with; and"		86
Pyramid drill		87
General review		88
Answers		90
Hong Kong culture:		95
English words used in Cantonese		95
Hong Kong-style English abbreviations		95
Chapter 6 This is the first time I've been to this mall 97		
Dialogue		97
Story: Finding UG22 in a shopping mall		99
Vocabulary		101
Grammar practice		102
I. Question word + dōu 都 (inclusive and exclusive)		102
II. daih 第 + number (ordinal number)		103
III. gok-dāk 覺得 (to think; to feel)		103
IV. yíh-wàih 以為 (think; believed to be)		104
V. só-yíh 所以 (therefore; as a consequence)		104
VI. gám yéung 咁樣 (in this way; in such a manner)		105
Pyramid drill		106
General review		107
Answers		109

Hong Kong culture:		113
How to read the alphabet in Cantonese pronunciation		113
Confusing floor indication in an elevator		113
Chapter 7 We had a good time at the party	115	
Dialogue		115
Story: Preparing for a party		117
Vocabulary		119
Grammar practice		120
I. verb + dāk 得 + adjective (describe manner of an action))	120
II. gam 咁 + adjective (so; such)		120
III. Compare the usage of "gam 咁" and "gám-yéung 咁樣"		121
IV. sīn-ji 先至 (not until, emphasize the time is relatively lat	te)	121
V. yāt jóu 一早 (at an early time)		122
VI. Time spent		123
Pyramid drill		124
General review		125
Answers		127
Hong Kong culture:		132
What to do when invited to a Chinese family dinner		132
What to do when invited to a Chinese wedding banquet		132
Chapter 8 Summer is hot and humid	133	
Dialogue		133
Story: Sunday in Sai Kung		135
Vocabulary		137
Grammar practice		138
I. hó-yíh 可以 (can; may; allow to)		138
II. Compare the usage of "hó-yíh 可以" and "dóu 到"		139
III. yauh X (and also)		139
IV. hóu chíh 好似 (seem like; look like; resemble)		140
V. pa 怕 (be afraid of; worry about; dislike)		141
VI. jeui 最 + adjective (most, superlative)		141
VII. géi 幾 + adjective (quite, rather)		142
Pyramid drill		143
General review		144
Answers		146
Hong Kong culture: Enjoying nature in metropolitan Hong Kong	<u> </u>	151

Chapter 9 It's getting colder and colder 152	
Dialogue	152
Story: Air-conditioning	154
Vocabulary	156
Grammar practice	157
I. verb + saai 晒 (all; completely)	157
II. yuht-làih-yuht 越嚟越 (becoming more and more)	158
III. dōu 都 (even, used for emphasis)	158
Review: "dōu 都" meaning "also" or "all"	159
IV. verb + dō 多 (some more)	160
V. mh syun 唔算 (not considered as)	160
VI. géi 幾 (a few; a general number)	161
Review: Usage of "géi 幾"	161
Pyramid drill	162
General review	163
Answers	165
Hong Kong culture: Cold and very hot weather warnings	169
Chapter 10 The buffet is great value! 170	
Dialogue	170
Story: Buffets	172
Vocabulary	174
Grammar practice	175
I. yāt-bihn 一便 yāt-bihn 一便 (simultaneously)	175
II. bīn-douh 邊度? (How can it be possible?)	175
III. Use question words such as "whatever", "wherever", "whoever"	176
IV. máih 咪 + verb (please don't)	177
V. taai 太 + adjective (excessively; too)	178
VI. dái 抵 (good value)	178
Pyramid drill	179
General review	180
Answers	182
Hong Kong culture: Local Hong Kong fast-food menus	187
Appendix 1: Cantonese pronunciation system and practice	189
Appendix 2: Vocabulary list	221

Preface

Cantonese is a dialect in China. It is commonly used in the Pearl River Delta region. Being able to speak Cantonese will give you the chance to explore facets of Hong Kong life and will likely bring you closer to the local people.

There are many beginners' textbooks for learning Cantonese as a second language. *A Cantonese Book* is one of them and it has been a popular beginner's textbook since it was published in 1995. However, there is no appropriate intermediate-level Cantonese textbook for learners with basic Cantonese knowledge. *Talk to Me in Cantonese* is for these learners.

In this book, each chapter starts with a real-life situational dialogue and a narrative story, followed by an explanation of useful vocabulary and clear descriptions of grammar structures and drills. At the end of each chapter, there is a wide variety of exercises designed to help enhance learners' ability to express their ideas. The successful features of *A Cantonese Book* have been retained and more communicative-approach practices and integrated skill practices have been added.

Special thanks to Mr. Alan Dowling for advising on the English translation.

How to use this book

Several distinct features of this book are useful and effective for learners.

The book is divided into 10 chapters and covers about 60 grammatical points and over 200 vocabulary items. The contents and examples are designed with reference to authentic situations in Hong Kong, in an attempt to stimulate interest and increase awareness of Cantonese.

The presentation is in romanization, Chinese characters, and English translation. The system chosen, the Yale romanization, is the most intuitive romanization system used in textbooks and references for English-speaking learners. Its visualized tone marks, $-/\$, assist learners to read this tonal language. Chinese characters are given for these romanized items. English translation of the entire context is also provided for review after class and self-study.

Each chapter is divided into the following sections:

1. Dialogue: Topics have been carefully chosen and are based on real-life situations. They serve as a summary of the sentence patterns. English translation is provided. There are questions at the beginning to help students understand the contents.

Here are my suggestions on how to study this part:

First, read the questions to get an idea of what you are going to listen to.

Then, listen to the dialogue line by line and repeat.

Read through the script and circle the new words.

Listen again and answer the questions.

Work in pairs and act out the dialogue.

2. Story: The stories are short passages for students to learn to describe an incident or express ideas. This section helps consolidate the grammar points acquired.

Each story is followed by exercises.

The first exercise comprises short or multiple-choice answers to questions that are designed for understanding the contents.

The second exercise is a dialogue practice, which is a variation and extension of the story. There are "completing sentences" and "rearranging dialogue lines" drills.

Here are my suggestions on how to study this part:

Listen to the dialogue and number the lines in the order you hear them.

Listen and complete the dialogue in romanization or Chinese characters.

Work in pairs and act out the dialogue.

3. Vocabulary: About 20 new words are introduced. In the right-hand column, the English equivalents are given. The words are arranged in groups of noun, verb, adjective, adverb, etc.

Learners should listen and repeat the words and then recall in which line of the chapter they have read them.

4. Grammar practice: The book uses a grammar-translation approach. Various forms of grammatical structure are presented. There are example sentences and practice for consolidation.

A detailed explanation is provided to compare the usage of words and grammar patterns that can be confusing. For example, in Chapter 2 the section Compare the usage of "yùhn 完" and "jó 咗" explains the differences between the two characters.

Learners will be able to learn grammar and linguistic terms in a gradual manner and enjoy the interesting topics.

Pyramid drills provide a review of key vocabulary and sentence patterns. Their aim is to help learners consolidate the grammar structure introduced.

- 5. General review: Ample exercises are included to help users attain fluency in Cantonese more efficiently. These exercises focus on integrated skills and include previous knowledge acquired from preceding chapters. There are additional dialogues, vocabulary review, question-and-answer matching exercises, blank-filling practice, and sentence rewriting.
- 6. Hong Kong culture: This part gives learners a taste of history, culture, and customs of Hong Kong.

The book also includes two supplementary lists in the appendices for learners' further reference.

Appendix 1: Cantonese pronunciation system and practice. This is an introduction to the Yale romanization. Each tone and its pronunciation are indicated. The pronunciation practices are arranged according to finals, that is, endings of a syllable. Each section includes vocabulary practice and listening dictation and comparisons between similar pronunciations. Learners can practise sounds and tones in an authentic way.

Pair-work practice is recommended:

Read aloud all the pronunciation drills.

A reads from the list, then asks B to point it out.

Appendix 2: Vocabulary list is arranged in two ways for easy reference. In the first part, all entries are arranged according to Cantonese phonetic alphabetical order. In the second part, the English translations of these entries are arranged according to the English alphabet. Both parts also list the chapters in which these words are introduced.

1

I've asked Si Si to buy some batteries

Dialogue 4101.mp3

- ➤ What are the things that Hong wants?
- > Did Ga Man remember to buy them?
- > Can Si Si buy those things?
- ➤ When will those things be available?

Hōng: Gā Màhn, néih yáuh móuh bōng ngóh máaih yéh a? 康: 嘉雯,你有冇幫我買嘢呀? Ga Man, have you bought those things for me?

GM: Há? Máaih māt-yéh a? Ngóh mh gei-dāk wo! 嘉雯: 吓?買 乜 嘢呀?我 唔 記 得 喎! Oh! What is it? I don't remember.

Hōng: Dihn-chìh dahk ga, ngóh giu néih máaih sāam *pack* ma!康: 電 池 特 價,我 叫 你 買 三 pack 嘛!

Batteries are on sale, I've asked you to buy three packs.

GM: A! Ngóh giu jó Sī Sī heui máaih. Néih mahn kéuih lā. 嘉雯:啊!我 叫咗詩詩去 買。你 問 佢 啦。 I've asked Si Si to buy them. Please ask her.

Hōng: Sī Sī, néih yáuh móuh bōng ngóh máaih dihn-chìh a? 康: 詩詩,你有有幫我買電池呀? Si Si, have you bought me any batteries?

Sī Sī: Ngóh máaih mh dóu a! Kéuih-deih wah móuh fo. 詩詩: 我 買 唔 到呀!佢 哋 話 冇 貨。 I can't buy them. They said they're out of stock.

Hōng: Gám, yáu dāk kéuih lā. Mh-gōi saai. Jī mh jī géi-sìh yáuh fo a? 康: 咁,由得佢 啦。唔該晒。知唔知幾時有貨呀? Never mind, then. Thanks. Do they know when the goods are available?

Sī Sī: Kéuih-deih wah ngóh jī tīng-yaht yáuh la wóh. 詩詩: 佢 哋 話 我 知聽 日 有 喇 喎。 They told me they'll be available tomorrow.

Story: I met Gee at the bus stop 4102.mp3

Gām-jīu ngóh daap bā-sí fāan gūng, hái bā-sí jaahm gin dóu A Jī. 今 朝我 搭 巴士返 工,喺巴士站 見到阿芝 · I went to work by bus this morning and met Gee at the bus stop.

Kéuih wah heui Wāan-Jái. Ngóh gin dóu kéuih yáuh yāt go hóu daaih ge dói, 佢 話 去 灣 仔。我 見 到 佢 有 一個 好 大 嘅 袋, She said she was going to Wan Chai. I saw her carrying a very big bag and

mahn kéuih jouh māt-yéh. Kéuih wah gām-yaht hōi-chí syū-jín, 問 佢 做 乜 嘢。佢 話 今 日 開 始 書 展, asked her what she was going to do. She said the book fair is starting today.

kéuih tùhng pàhng-yáuh yāt-chàih heui máaih syū. 佢 同 朋 友 一齊 去 買 書。 She and her friends are going to buy books.

Ngóh wah kéuih jī syū-jín yáuh hóu dō mihng-sīng. 我 話 佢 知書 展有 好多明 星。 I told her there are many celebrities at the book fair.

Ngóh giu kéuih gin-dóu mìhng-sīng, gei-dāk yíng séung, ló chīm méng. 我 叫 佢 見 到 明 星,記 得 影 相、攞 簽 名。 I told her if she saw a celebrity, remember to take photos and get an autograph.

Extended dialogue **◀103.mp3**

Listen and complete the dialogue with the expressions in the table.

séuhng chē lā	ló chīm méng a	gām-yaht hōi-chí
上 車 啦	攞簽名呀	今 日 開始
néih heui bīn-douh a	hóu noih móuh gin la	néih séung jouh māt-yéh
你 去 邊 度 呀	好耐冇見喇	你想做乜嘢
daap nī ga ba-sí ngāam ga la	gó douh yáuh ho	óu dō mìhng-sīng
搭 呢架巴士啱 噪喇	果度 有 如	子 多 明 星
yùh-gwó gin-dóu néih jūng-yi 如果見到你鍾意		ng-yáuh yāt-chàih 友 一 齊

J:	Wai! A Wihng, gam ngāam a! 喂!阿 榮 , 咁 啱 呀!
W:	Haih a. A Jī, 係 呀。阿芝,
J:	Chē làih la? 車 嚟 喇。
W:	Ngóh heui Tùhng-Lòh-Wāan, 我 去 銅 鑼 灣,
J:	Ngóh dōu daap nī ga chē heui Wāan-Jái. 我都搭呢架車去灣仔。
W:	Néih ge dói hóu daaih wo!a? 你 嘅袋好 大 喎! 呀?
J:	syū-jín,heui máaih syū. 書展, 去買書。
W:	Ngóh tái dihn-sih wah 我 睇 電 視 話
	Néih gei-dāk tùhng kéuih-deih yíng séung,! 你 記得同 佢 哋 影 相、
J:	Hóu aak.ge mìhng-sīng,好 呃。嘅 明 星 ,
	bōng néih ló chīm méng lā. 幫你攤簽名啦。

Vocabulary 4104.mp3

1.	bōng	幕	to help; to	o assist
----	------	---	-------------	----------

2. giu to ask; to order (someone to do something)

3. mahn 問 to ask (question)

5. ló 攞 to take; to fetch

6. hōi-chí 開始 to start

7. gei-dāk 記得 to remember

8. séuhng chē 上車 to get in a car

9. nī ga chē 呢架車 this car

10. yíng séung 影相 to take a photo

11. chīm méng 簽名 to sign one's name; signature

12. verb + dóu 到 be able to; manage to

13. dihn-chìh 電池 battery (literally electric pool)

14. fo 貨 goods; commodity

15. dói 袋 bag

16. syū-jín 書展 book fair

17. mìhng-sīng 明星 celebrity; movie star

18. gām-jīu 今朝 this morning (literally, today morning)

19. gam ngāam 咁啱 by coincidence

20. ngāam 啱 correct; suitable

21. dahk ga 特價 big sale

22. yùh-gwó 如果 if

23. yáu dāk kéuih 由得佢 let it be; never mind

24. há what do you mean? what is it?

Grammar practice

I. yáuh móuh 有有 + verb (Have you . . . ?) **4105.mp3**

e.g., Néih yáuh móuh máaih dihn chìh a? 你 有 買 電 池 呀? 冇 Have you bought any batteries? (Yes) Yáuh 有 (No) Móuh 冇

* Note: Cantonese does not change the form of a verb to give additional information about when the action takes place. There is nothing equivalent to tenses in English. "Yáuh móuh 有冇" is placed before a verb to ask if a certain action has happened in the past or not.

1. Néih kàhm-yaht **yáuh móuh** fāan gūng a?

返 工 呀? H 有 右

2. Néih **yáuh móuh** giu kéuih chīm méng a?

叫佢 簽 冇

3. Kéuih gām jīu **yáuh móuh** jouh *gym* a?

佢 今 朝 有 冇 做 gym 呀?

4. Néih **yáuh móuh** mahn kéuih séung heui bīn-douh a?

有 冇 佢 想 去邊度

Practice

- a. Use the prompts below to help you.
 - i. Ask a question with "yáuh móuh 有有"
 - ii. Answer the question in "i".
- b. Ask questions using "yáuh móuh 有有" and the following phrases. Then answer.
 - i. tái dihn-sih 睇 電 視
 - ii. máaih néih jūng-yi ge dói

你 鍾 意嘅袋

iii. gām-jīu sihk jóu-chāan

今 朝 食 早 餐

II. verb + dóu 到 (to be able to, manage to) 4106.mp3

Affirmative: verb + dóu 到

e.g., Ngóh máaih **dóu** dihn-chìh.

我 買 到 電 池。

I've managed to buy the batteries.

Negative: verb + mh dóu 唔到

e.g., Ngóh máaih mh dóu dihn-chìh.

我 買 唔 到 電 池。

I can't buy the batteries.

Interrogative: verb + mh 唔 + verb + dóu 到

e.g., Néih máaih **mh** máaih **dóu** dihn-chìh a?

你 買 唔 買 到 電 池 呀?

Have you managed to buy the batteries?

(Yes) máaih dóu 買到 (No) máaih mh dóu 買唔到

1. Ngóh hái deih-tit jaahm **gin dóu** pàhng-yáuh.

我 喺地 鐵站 見到 朋 友。

2. Néih **bōng dóu** kéuih, kéuih hóu hōi-sām.

你 幫 到 佢, 佢 好 開 心。

3. Syū-jín yáuh hóu dō dahk-ga syū, néih **tái mh tái dóu** a?

書 展有 好多特 價書,你睇唔睇到呀?

4. Néih tēng mh tēng dóu ngóh góng māt-yéh a?

你聽唔聽到我講乜嘢呀?

5. Dī syū, néih **ló mh ló dóu** baat jit a?

啲書,你攞唔攞到八折呀?

6. Ngóh móuh chín, **chéng mh dóu** néih sihk faahn.

我 有 錢,請 唔 到 你 食 飯。

Practice

- a. Use the prompts below to help you.
 - i. Make a sentence with "dóu 到".
 - ii. Make a sentence with "mh dóu 唔到".
- b. Ask questions using "dóu 到" and the following phrases. Then answer.
 - i. séuhng chē

上 車

ii. tēng māt-yéh

聽乜嘢

iii. tīng-yaht luhk dím làih nī-douh

聽日六點嚟呢度

III. wah 話 (to say) **◀107.mp3**

e.g., A Jī wah gām-yaht hōi-chí syū-jín. 阿芝話 今 日 開 始 書 展。 Gee said the book fair started today.

1. Kéuih wah nī dī yéh móuh mahn-tàih. 話 呢啲 嘢 冇 間

2. Gā-Màhn wah mh heui yám chàh. 嘉雯 話 唔 去 飲 茶。

IV. wah 話······jī 知 (to tell) **√108.mp3**

e.g., Kéuih-deih wah ngóh jī tīng-yaht yáuh fo la. 哋 話 我 知聽 日 有 貨喇。 佢 They told me the goods will be available tomorrow.

- 1. Ngóh wah néih jī, gó douh ge dím-sām hóu hóu sihk. 話 你 知,果度 嘅 點 心 好 好 食。
- 2. Mh-gōi néih wah kéuih jī Chàhn sāang wán kéuih lā. 唔 該 你 話 佢 知 陳 生 搵 佢

V. mahn 問 (to ask a question) **√109.mp3**

e.g., Ngóh **mahn** kéuih heui bīn-douh. 我 問 佢 去邊度。 I ask him where he was going.

- 1. Kéuih mahn néih sīng-kèih-luhk yáuh māt-yéh jouh. 佢 問 你 星 期 六 有 乜 嘢 做。
- 2. Ngóh séung mahn nī go mìhng-sīng ló chīm méng. 想 呢個 明 星 攤簽 名。 我 問

VI. giu III (to ask or to order someone to do something) **√110.mp3**

e.g., Ngóh giu Sī Sī máaih sāam pack dihn-chìh. 叫詩詩買 三 pack 電 池。 I've asked Si Si to buy three packs of batteries.

- 1. Kéuih-deih **giu** néih hōi-chí. néih tēng mh tēng dóu a? **哋 叫 你 開 始,你 聽 唔 聽 到呀?**
- 2. Ngóh **giu** kéuih hah go sīng-kèih yāt hōi wúi. 叫佢下個星期一開會。

Practice ◄111.mp3

Complete the sentences with the correct words.

giu叫 mahn 問 wah 話 jī 知 Hōng: "Sī Sī, néih yáuh móuh bōng ngóh máaih dihn-chìh a?" 康: 「詩詩, 你 有 冇 幫 我 買 Hōng Sī Sī yáuh móuh bōng kéuih máaih dihn-chìh. 詩詩 有 冇 幫 佢 買 ■ Hōng _____ Sī Sī bōng kéuih máaih dihn-chìh. 詩詩 幫 佢 買 電 b. Sī Sī: "Mh-gōi, yáuh móuh nī júng dahk ga dihn-chìh a?" 詩詩: 「唔 該,有 冇 呢種 特 價電 池 呀?」 jīk-yùhn: "Móuh fo a." 貨呀。」 職員:「冇 "Gám, géi-sìh yáuh fo a?" Sī Sī: 詩詩: 「咁, 幾 時 有 貨呀?」 jīk-yùhn: "Tīng-yaht yáuh fo ga la. Néih tīng-yaht làih máaih lā." 日 有 貨 架喇。你 聽 日 嚟 買 職員:「聽 Sī Sī jīk yùhn yáuh móuh dahk ga dihn-chìh. 詩詩 職員有 冇 特 價 電 池。 \square Jīk-yùhn _____ Sī Sī ____ móuh fo. 職員 詩詩 右 ☞ Sī Sī _____ jīk yùhn géi-sìh yáuh fo. 職員幾時有貨。 詩詩 Jīk-yùhn _ Sī Sī _____ tīng-yaht yáuh fo, 聽 日 有 貨, 職員 詩詩 kéuih tīng-yaht làih máaih. 佢 聽 日 嚟 買。

VII. bōng 幫 (to help; to assist) ◀112.mp3

e.g., Néih **bōng** ngóh ló mìhng-sīng ge chīm méng lā. 你 幫 我 攞 明 星 嘅 簽 名 啦 d I'll get you your favourite celebrity's autograph.

1. Mh-gōi néih **bōng** ngóh mahn néih pàhng-yáuh lā. 唔該你幫我問你朋友啦。

- 2. Néih heui Chāt Sahp-Yāt, gei-dāk **bōng** ngóh máaih yéh. 去七十一,記得幫 你 我 買 嘢。
- 3. Néih jouh mh jouh dóu a? Jouh mh dóu, ngóh **bōng** néih lā. 你 做 唔 做 到呀?做唔到,我

VIII. To modify something with "ge 嘅" **∢113.mp3**

e.g., Kéuih yáuh yāt go hóu daaih ge dói 佢 有 一個好 大 *She was carrying a very big bag.*

- 1. Ngóh kàhm-yaht gin dóu néih jūng-yi **ge** mìhng-sīng. 我 日 見 到 你 鍾 意嘅 明 星。
- 2. Ngóh-deih daap heui Wāan-Jái ge bā-sí. 哋 搭 去 灣 仔 嘅 巴士。
- 3. Néih bōng ngóh yíng **ge** séung hóu leng. 你 幫 我 影嘅相 好 靚。

IX. yáu dāk kéuih 由得佢 (let it be; never mind) 4114.mp3

e.g., Máaih mh dóu dihn-chìh, yáu dāk kéuih lā. 買 唔到 電 池,由 得 佢 You can't buy batteries, never mind.

- 1. Kéuih mh séung jouh, néih yáu dāk kéuih lā. 佢 唔 想 做, 你 由 得 佢
- 2. Yùh-gwó móuh baahk-sīk T sēut, yáu dāk kéuih, mh yiu la. 如 果 冇 色 T 恤, 由 得 佢, 唔 要喇。 白

X. gam ngāam 咁啱 (by coincidence) **4115.**mp3

e.g., Wai! A Wihng, gam ngāam a! Hóu noih móuh gin la. 喂!阿榮, 咁 啱 呀!好耐冇 見喇。 Hi Wing! What a coincidence! Haven't seen you for a long time.

- 1. Ngóh séung heui yàuh séui, **gam ngāam** lohk yúh. 去 游 水, 咁 我 啱 落雨。
- 2. Heui máaih yéh yám, hó-lohk gam ngāam dahk ga. 嘢 飲,可樂 咁 啱 買
- 3. Heui yám chàh, **gam ngāam** gin dóu pàhng-yáuh. 飲 茶, 咁 啱 見 到 朋 友。

Pyramid drill 4116.mp3

1.

chīm méng 簽名 mìhng-sīng ge chīm méng 星嘅簽名 ló mìhng-sīng ge chīm méng 攞 明 星嘅簽名 bong ngóh ló mìhng-sīng ge chīm méng 我 攞 明 星嘅簽 móuh bōng ngóh ló mìhng-sīng ge chīm méng 我 攞 明 星 嘅 簽 幫 Néih yáuh móuh bōng ngóh ló mìhng-sīng ge chīm méng a? 我 攞 明 星嘅簽 名 呀? 你 有 冇 幫 Did you get the celebrity's autograph for me?

2.

séuhng chē 上 車 giu néih séuhng chē 叫你 上 車 ngóh giu néih séuhng chē 我 叫 你 上 tēng dóu ngóh giu néih séuhng chē 到 我 叫 你 上 tēng mh dóu ngóh giu néih séuhng chē 聽唔到我叫你上 Néih tēng mh tēng dóu ngóh giu néih séuhng chē a? 你 聽 唔 聽 到 我 叫 你 上 Did you hear me asking you to get into the car?

3.

máaih dihn-chìh
買電池
máaih mh dóu dihn-chìh
買唔到電池
máaih mh dóu dihn-chìh, yáu dāk kéuih
買唔到電池,由得佢
máaih mh dóu dihn-chìh, yáu dāk kéuih wóh
買唔到電池,由得佢喎

Kéuih wah néih jī máaih mh dóu dihn-chìh, yáu dāk kéuih wóh.佢話你知買唔到電池,由得佢喎

He told you that if you can't buy the batteries, never mind.

General review

I.	Put	the	words	in the	correct	order to	make sentences.	4117.mp3
----	-----	-----	-------	--------	---------	----------	-----------------	-----------------

- 1. máaih / mh-gōi / syū / bōng / yāt bún / ngóh 買 / 唔 該/書/幫 / 一本/我
- 2. gó gāan / wah / kéuih / hóu hóu / chāan-tēng / pàhng-yáuh 果間/話/佢/好好/餐 廳 / 朋
- 3. Chàhn sāang / béi / néih / nī dī yéh / chīm méng / ló / mh-gōi / lā 生 / 畀 / 你 / 呢 啲 嘢 / 簽 名 / 攞/ 唔 該 / 啦
- 4. ba-sí / séuhng dóu / kéuih / ge / séuhng / baat dím / a / mh 到 / 佢 / 嘅 / 上 / 八 點 / 呀 /唔 巴士 / 上

II. Listen and complete the following with expressions in the box. **∢118.mp3**

bōng 幫	chīm méng 簽名	giu ॥।	tēng mh dóu 聽 唔 到
néih wah ngóh jī	Ī	yáu dāk kéuih	
你 話 我 分	印	由得佢	

- 1. Ngóh _____ kéuih góng māt-yéh. 乜嘢。 講 佢
- 2. Mh-gōi_____ gāan jáu-dim hái bīn-douh lā. 間 酒 店 喺 邊 度
- 3. Néih _____ ngóh hái douh _____ lā. 我 喺 度 啦。
- 4. Ngóh _____ kéuih tīng-yaht làih. 佢 聽日嚟。
- 5. Gam ngāam móuh fo, gám, 啱 冇 貨,咁, 啦。

```
3. Did he go to the gym this morning?
                       2. Did you ask him for an autograph?
                          1. Did you go to work yesterday?
                        Grammar practice translation I
                              I'll get you her autograph.
                                  客 簽 縣 初
                             bong néih ló chīm méng lã.
               That's great! If I see your favourite celebrity,
            明潮意 難 汾 庭 見 果 啦。迎 钕
    ' 圕
    J: Hou aak. Yùh-gwó gin-dou néih jūng-yi ge mìhng-sīng,
 Remember to take photos with them and get their autograph.
           簽點、財
                       溜 聊
                               到
                                     影 镥 巴
  Néih gei-dāk tùhng kéuih-deih ying séung, ló chīm méng al
         I saw it on TV. They said there are many celebrities.
                           阻差铁
                       卦
   W: Ngóh tái dihn-sih wah gó douh yáuh hóu dō mìhng-sīng.
               I'm going with my friends to buy new books.
                        齊 一 芨
                  子
        Ngóh tùhng pàhng-yáuh yāt-cháih heur máarh syū.
                   Today is the deginning of the book fair.
                             , 舞 書 啟 閧
                                            目 令
                             J: Gam-yaht hoi-chi syū-jin,
              Your bag is so big. What are you going to do?
    保石 睡 旺 )
                     狠
                          湖: 腳
                                   大 铁紫娜
     W: Weih ge dói hóu daaih wo! Weih séung jouh māt-yéh a?
          Let's go together. I'm taking this bus to Wan Chai.
              去車架別 潜 猪 班。 如車
    · 打
     J: Séuhng chē lā. Ngóh dõu daap nī ga chē heui Wāan-Jái.
               I'm going to Causeway Bay. This is my bus.
          器 灣 , 替 呢如田士咄
                                        垂 圣
。陳霖
 W: Ngóh heui Tùhng-Lòh-Wāan, daap nī ga ba-sí ngāam ga la.
                   A bus is coming. Where are you going?
                     車 喀喇。你 去 邊 医 呀?
                      J: Chē làih la. Néih heui bīn-douh a?
             Oh yes, Gee! Haven't seen you for a long time.
                              市 丽 我, 茎间。 把 刹
                      W: Haih a. A Jī, hóu noih móuh gin la.
                          Hi! Wing! What a coincidence!
                          盛 碰;
                                    岨
                                        、榮 阿!珊
                          1: Wail A Wihng. Gam ngāam al
                             Story—Extended dialogue
                                          Answers
```

Did you watch TV?

計 計

Practice answer b.

i. Vêih yáuh móuh tái dihn-sih a?

4. Did you ask him where he wanted to go?

聯電 雅砥5

```
Hong: "Si Si, have you bought me any datteries?"
     源 碰点
                      買
                           無
                               蟲
                                     Hong: "Sī Sī, néih yáuh móuh bong ngóh máaih dihn-chìh a?"
                                                      Practice
                  2. I asked him to attend a meeting next Monday.
                        1. He told you to start. Did you hear that?
                           Grammar practice translation VI
                  2. I want to get the autograph of this movie star.
            I. He asked you if you had anything to do on Saturday.
                            Grammar practice translation V
   2. Would you please tell him that Mr. Chan was looking for him?
                1. I told you the dim sum there was very delicious.
                           Grammar practice translation IV
                    2. Ga Man said she was not going to have tea.
                1. He said there was no problem with these things.
                          Grammar practice translation III
               底部類 uòb dm diśl (oV)
                                         [译字] làih dóu 嚟到
                        Can you come here at 6:00 tomorvow?
               5 到 19 隆 鄭 部 耀 六 日 聽
              iii. Néih tīng-yaht luhk dím làih mh làih dóu nī-douh?
                                  I didn't hear anything.
                           噩
                                            7
                           (No) Ngóh móuh tēng dóu māt-yéh.
                                            · . . рльэц I
                                     #
                                    (Yes) Ngóh tēng dóu.....
                                         What did you hear?
                                  提 到 日 融 础 5
                                   ii. Néih tēng dóu māt-yéh a?
         睡期工 nòp um gunbàs (oV)
                                      [译二 uòb gnhuàs (səY)
                           Can you manage to get on the bus?
                          到 車 碰 5
                                         丁 蟲
                                                   工 泐
                           i. Néih séuhng mh séuhng dóu chē a?
                                             Practice answer b.
                       6. I have no money. I can't buy you lunch.
                  5. Can you get a 20% discount for those books?
                                    4. Did you hear what I said?
3. There are many bargain books at the book fair. Can you find them?
                                 2. You helped him. He's happy.
                            1. I met a friend at the MTR Station.
                           Grammar practice translation II
                         Have you had breakfast this morning?
                   9 平 資 配 3
                                           計 醇 令
                                      1
                    iii. Néih gam-jīu yauh móuh sihk jóu-chāan a?
                                Did you buy the bas you like?
                 你鍾意嘅袋呀?
                                              1
                  11. Néth yáuh móuh máath néth jüng-yi ge dót a?
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```
3. I was having tea at the café. I met a friend by coincidence.
                                  2. I wanted to buy Coke, and it happened to be on sale.
                                    1. I wanted to go swimming, but it happened to rain.
                                                  Grammar practice translation X
                           2. If you don't have a white T-shirt, it's alright. I don't want it.
                                          1. He doesn't want to do it. Leave him alone.
                                                 Grammar practice translation IX
                                          3. The pictures you took for me are beautiful.
                                             2. We took the bus that goes to Wan Chai.

    I saw your favourite movie star yesterday.

                                               Grammar practice translation VIII
                                      3. Are you able to do it? If you can't, I'll help you.
                            2. When you go to 7-Eleven, remember to buy things for me.
                                    1. Please do me a favour. Ask your friend about this.
                                                Grammar practice translation VII
The staff told Si Si that the goods would be available tomorrow and asked her to come then.
                                      有 货,叫柜
                                                       目 灩
                  🖙 Jīk-yùhn wah Sī Sī jī tīng-yaht yáuh fo, giu kéuih tīng-yaht làih máaih.
                      Si Si asked the staff if he knew when the goods would be available.
                                               。資 青 報 養 員 獅
                                                🖘 Sī Sī mahn jīk yùhn géi-sìh yáuh fo.
                                            The staff told Si Si they were out of stock.
                                                    📧 Jīk-yùhn wah Sī Sī jī móuh fo.
                                Si Si asked the staff if there were any batteries on sale.
                                   辯
                                                      7
                                                           耳
                                                                員 獅
                                   🖙 Sī Sī mahn jīk yùhn yáuh móuh dahk ga dihn-chìh.
                           Staff: "They" Il de available tomorrow. Please come tomorrow."
                                         jīk-yùhn: "Tīng-yaht yáuh fo ga la. Néih tīng-yaht làih máaih lā."
                                    Si Si: "Do you know when the goods are available?"
                                                    Sī Sī: "Gám, géi-sìh yáuh fo a?"
                                                Staff: "They we out of stock. I'm sowy."
                                                [。思意 钰 哥。 函資
                                                                       ↑]:員獅
                                                  Jīk-yùhn: "Móuh fo a. Mh-hóu yi-sī."
                      Si Si: "Excuse me, do you have this type of batteries that is on sale?"
                               配鍾 辞 僅 堰 炉砂;〕
                                                            Ţ
                                                                 下: ( ) 新部 | : 新語
                                Sī Sī: "Mh-gōi, yáuh móuh nī júng dahk ga dihn-chìh a?"
                                                                                 ·q
                                           Hong asked Si Si to buy batteries for him.
                                                           叫詩詩幫佢
                                         Far Hong giu Sī Sī bong kéuih máaih dihn-chìh.
                                 Hong asked Si Si if she had bought him any batteries.
                             里 源。
                                         買
                                              到/
                                                   囂
                                                        7
                                                             B Hong mahn Sī Sī yauh mouh bong keuih maaih dihn-chih.
```

```
It so happens that it is out of stock. Never mind.
               引 制 相,相,重 行
           5. Gam ngāam móuh fo, gám, yáu dāk kéuih lā.
                          I told him to come tomorrow.
                         。 潮 日 離
                                      ] |11
                         4. Ngóh giu kéuih tīng-yaht làih.
                          Yould you please sign here?
                              ) 潮
                                     狂
                3. Véih bong ngóh hái douh chīm méng lā.
             Would you please tell me where the hotel is?
                      間果映 珠 話 冰 慈 郚
河 声 瀬 即 即
2. Mh-gōi néih wah ngóh jī gó gāan jáu-dim hái bīn-douh lā.
                             I can't hear what he said.
                罐 口 融。
                              事 晤 到 框
                1. Ngóh tēng mh dóu kéuih góng māt-yéh.
                                                   .II
                       Is he able to eatch the 8:00 bus?
       5 种土田 脚 耀 八 庭
                               丁 蟲
        4. Kéuih séuhng mh séuhng dóu baat dím ge bā-sí a?
             Please take these things to Mr Chan to sign.
                 Ŧ
                       瀬 畏 砂 御 歌 敬 落 哥

 Mh-gōi néih ló nī dī yéh béi Chàhn sāang chīm méng lā.

            His friend said that restaurant was very good.
      。 铁 铁 鸝
                   豫 間 果 話

\mathcal{A}

      2. Kéuih pàhng-yáuh wah gó gāan chāan-tēng hóu hóu.
                               Please buy me a book.
                  盟 該 幫
                               買
                                    狂
                  1. Mh-gōi bōng ngóh máaih yāt bún syū.
                                     General review
```

Hong Kong culture

How Stanley 赤柱 got its name

Stanley is named after Lord Stanley, the British Secretary of State for the Colonies at the time of the cessation of Hong Kong. In Central, Stanley Street is also named after Lord Stanley. The Chinese name is 士丹利街 Sih Dāan Leih Gāai, a phonetic translation of Stanley, which is very different from the name of the area called 赤柱 Chek Chyúh.

On a map in the nineteenth century, the area is written 赤柱 Chak Ch'u in Hakka.

赤柱 Chak Ch'u means red pillar and refers to the village with tall cotton trees often covered in bright red blossoms. Another explanation of 赤柱 Chak Ch'u is written as a variation of 賊柱 Chaahk Chyu (literally bandit's post), which is related to the legend of the notorious pirate Cheung Po Tsai 張保 仔, who was active here.

In Hong Kong, many places have changed their names for a better sound or to avoid bad meanings. Here are a few examples:

樂富 Lok Fu, where a public housing estate of the same name is located, means happy and rich. As there were tigers living in this area, its previous name was 老虎岩 Lóuh Fú Ngàahm or Tiger Rock. But it is believed that tiger sounds too fierce and may cause bad feng shui.

藍田 Lam Tin or blue field was originally 鹹田 Hàahm Tìhn or salt field. The meaning of 鹹 is associated with dirty, as in 鹹濕 hàahm-sāp. It might not be a desirable character to have in the name of a residential area.

欣澳 Yān Ou, or Sunny Bay, means cheerful bay in Chinese. Its original name is 陰澳 Yām Ou, which means shadow bay or dark bay, as it used to be a good place to store cut trees. The place name changed when plans to build the Hong Kong Disneyland Resort on nearby Penny's Bay were decided. The character 欣 Yān, meaning cheerful, is more suitable for the station name of the Disneyland rail link and matches the happy image of Disneyland.

調景嶺 Tìuh Géng Léhng, or Tiu King Ling, literally means harmonize view hill. The earliest name of this place was 照鏡嶺 Jiu Geng Léhng (literally, mirror hill), but later a failed businessman who hanged himself here gave the Chinese name for the place 吊頸嶺 Diu Géng Léhng, meaning hanging neck hill. The name was soon changed to 調景嶺 Tiu King Ling, characters that have similar sounds but with more auspicious meanings. The Hong Kong government once settled a considerable number of former Nationalist soldiers and other Nationalist Party (國民黨) supporters in this place after the Second World War. In 1996, just before the handover, the Nationalist Party residence was completely removed without a trace left for remembrance, as this would be an embarrassing scene for the PRC government.

Hong Kong culture

English words used in Cantonese 4520.mp3

Native Hong Kongers tend to use a lot of English words when they speak Cantonese and many of these words are not easily recognized by native speakers of English because they have Cantonese-influenced pronunciations and follow the word order of Cantonese.

Here are some examples:

- 1. Néih ge pān mh wēuk 嘅 plan 唔 work Your plan is not going to work.
- 2. Gēt mh dóu kéuih go pōn get 唔 到 佢 個 point I can't get his point, can't understand what he meant.

Hong Kong-style English abbreviations

Example

1. **present**, pronounced as pih-sēn, stands for presentation.

dou néih pih-sēn la. 到 你 present 喇。

It's your turn to give a presentation.

2. **con**, stands for contact lens.

yáuh móuh daai kōn? 冇 戴 con? Are you wearing contact lenses?

3. **mon**, stands for monitor, which often refers to the screen of the computer or mobile phone.

daaih mon

大 mon a big screen

yuhng yàhn-jouh-waih-sīng mōn jyuh

mon 住 造 衛 星 to be monitored by satellite

4. **in**, stands for interview.

Ngóh tīng-yaht īn 聽 ∃ in

I have an interview tomorrow.

5. **short**, pronounced sot, stands for short circuit, which is used not only on machines but also used to describe a crazy person.

kéuih sōt-jó

佢 short 咗

He has gone out of his mind.

ga gēi sōt sōt déi

架機 short short 哋

The machine is not functioning properly.

6. **tutor**, pronounced as tiuh-tō, stands for tutorial.

Ngóh mh séuhng tiuh-tō.

晤 上

I am not going to the tutorial.

7. **secure**, pronounced as saht-kīu, stands for security guard.

kō saht-kīu

call 實 Q

Please call the security guard to get help.

8. O T, abbreviation of overtime, meaning working extra hours.

gām-máahn hōi ōu-tī

今 晚 開OT

I have to work extra hours tonight.

Appendix 1 Cantonese pronunciation system and practice

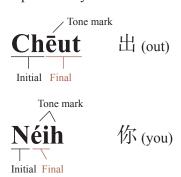
The Hong Kong government does not use a proper romanization system. Street signs and personal names are romanized in a random way. This kind of romanization cannot be used for systematic teaching and learning. Here are some examples:

Chinese Characters	Hong Kong Road Sign/Surname	Yale Romanization
灣仔	Wan Chai	Wāan Jái
柴灣	Chai Wan	Chàaih Wāan
薄扶林	Pok Fu Lam	Bok Fuh Làhm
藍田	Lam Tin	Làahm Tìhn
尖沙咀	Tsim Sha Tsui	Jīm Sā Jéui
深水埗	Sham Shui Po	Sām Séui Bóu
長洲	Cheung Chau	Chèuhng Jāu
徐	Chui / Tsui	Chèuih
周	Chau / Chow / Chou	Jāu
林	Lam / Lim / Lum	Làhm

This book uses Yale romanization, a popular system for English speakers developed by Yale University. Each Cantonese syllable consists of three elements:

- 1. Initial: the sound of the consonant at the beginning of the syllable. There are 19 initials in all.
- 2. Final: the sound of the vowel or consonant at the end of the syllable. There are 51 finals in all.
- 3. Tone: the relative pitch or variation of pitch of a syllable. There are 6 tones in all.

Examples of a syllable:



Initials

		as in English	example			as in English	example
1.	b	boy	bā 巴	11.	1	law	lā 啦
2.	ch	similar to "ts"	chā 叉	12.	m	mother	mā 媽
3.	d	dig	dá 打	13.	n	no	náh 那
4.	f	far	fā 花	14.	ng	singer	ngàh 牙
5.	g	game	gā 家	15.	p	park	pa 怕
6.	gw	guava	gwā 瓜	16.	S	sand	sā沙
7.	h	home	hā 蝦	17.	t	till	tā 他
8.	j	similar to "z"	jā 渣	18.	W	water	wā 娃
9.	k	kill	kā 卡	19.	y	yes	yáh 也
10.	kw	quite	kwā 誇				

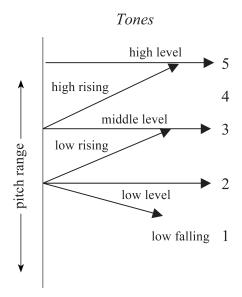
Finals

		as in English	example			as in English	example
	long a			short a			
1.	a	far	gā 加				
2.	aai	<u>ai</u> sle	taai 太	10.	ai	l <u>ye</u>	sai 細
3.	aau	how	bāau 包	11.	au	out ("t" silent)	sau 瘦
4.	aam	<u>arm</u>	sāam \equiv	12.	am	s <u>um</u>	sām心
5.	aan	<u>aun</u> t	sāan Ш	13.	an	s <u>un</u>	sān 新
6.	aang	no equivalent	sāang 生	14.	ang	dung	gāng 羹
7.	aap	harp ("p" silent)	daap 答	15.	ap	<u>up</u> ("p" silent)	sāp 濕
8.	aat	art ("t" silent)	baat 八	16.	at	gut ("t" silent)	bāt 筆
9.	aak	ark ("k" silent)	baak 百	17.	ak	duck ("k" silent)	dāk 得
	long	e			shor	t e	
18.	e	yes	sé 寫	21.	ei	day	fēi 飛
19.	eng	l <u>eng</u> th	tēng 聽				
20.	ek	<u>ech</u> o	sek 錫				
	long eu			shor	t eu		
22.	eu	h <u>er</u>	hēu 靴	25.	eui	deuil (French)	heui 去
23.	eung	l <u>ear</u> ning	hēung 香	26.	eun	nation	seun 信
24.	euk	turk ("k" silent)	geuk 腳	27.	eut	no equivalent	chēut 出

		as in English	example			as in English	example
	long i			short i		t i	
28.	i	b <u>ee</u>	si 試	34.	ing	s <u>ing</u> le	sīng 星
29.	iu	yew	siu 笑	35.	ik	sick ("k" silent)	sīk 識
30.	im	s <u>eem</u>	dim 店				
31.	in	s <u>een</u>	sīn 先				
32.	ip	jeep ("p" silent)	tip 貼				
33.	it	seat ("t" silent)	tit 鐵				
	long	0			shor	t o	
36.	o	sore	dō 多	42.	ou	toe	gōu 高
37.	oi	b <u>oy</u>	hōi 開				
38.	on	<u>on</u>	gōn 乾				
39.	ong	song	tōng 湯				
40.	ot	ought ("t" silent)	hot 渴				
41.	ok	cock ("k" silent)	gwok 國				
	long	u			shor	t u	
43.	u	fr <u>u</u> it	fu 褲	47.	ung	Achtung (German)	sung 送
44.	ui	"00" + "ee"	būi 杯	48.	uk	hook ("k" silent)	ūk 屋
45.	un	s <u>oon</u>	bun 半				
46.	ut	boot ("t" silent)	fut 闊				
	long	yu					
49.	yu	Dessus (French)	yú 魚				
50.	yun	Une (French)	yúhn 遠				
51.	yut	chute (French)	yuht 月				

* Notes:

- 1. "m" and "ng" can also be treated as finals.
- 2. "m" and a long "m" are said without opening the mouth.
- 3. "ng" is similar to the "ng" in singing, but is said further back in the mouth.



Tones		Tone Mark	Example	
1	high level	with " - " on top of the first vowel	S 1	poem 詩
2	high rising	with "/" on top of the first vowel	sí	history 史
3	middle level	none	si	try 試
4	low falling	with "\" on top, an "h" after the vowel(s)	sìh	time 時
5	low rising	with "/" on top, an "h" after the vowel(s)	síh	market 市
6	low level	with an "h" after the vowel(s)	sih	matter 事

Six tones practice

high level	middle level	low level	low falling	high rising	low rising
mā 媽	ma 嗎	mah 罵	màh 麻	má 痳	máh 馬
(mother)	(what)	(scold)	(linen)	(measles)	(horse)
sē 些	se 舍	seh 射	sèh 蛇	sé 寫	séh 社
(some)	(house)	(shoot)	(snake)	(write)	(society)
yī 衣	yi 意	yih [□]	yìh 怡	yí 椅	yíh 已
(clothes)	(meaning)	(two)	(delightful)	(chair)	(already)
chō 初	cho 錯	choh	chòh 鋤	chó 楚	chóh 坐
(beginning)	(wrong)		(dig)	(clear)	(sit)
fū 夫	fu 富	fuh 父	fùh 扶	fú 苦	fúh 婦
(husband)	(rich)	(father)	(hold on)	(bitter)	(woman)
sāam 3	sei 4	yih 2	lìhng 0	gáu 9	ngh 5
bīn 邊	go 個	yahp 入	làih 嚟		
(Who is coming	; in?)				

Middle level

Fong ga yiu fan gaau fan dou gau

假要瞓覺 瞓到夠。

I want to have as much sleep as I need on holiday.

Low level

Sahp yih yuht yih sahp luhk houh

26th December

High rising

Hóu séung tái dóu

好 想 睇 到

I really want to see (a scene)

Low rising

Néih yáuh móuh séuhng móhng máaih yéh?

有 冇 上 網 買 嘢?

Did you shop online?

Initials with vowels a, e, i, o, u

ba 巴	be 啤 (酒)	bi B	bo 波	
cha 叉	che 車	chi 次	cho 坐	
da 打	de 爹	di 啲	do多	
fa化	fe 啡	fi	fo 火	fu 夫
ga加	ge 嘅	gi	go 個	gu 古
gwa 🎵	gwe		gwo 果	
ha下	he	hi	ho 可	
ja炸	je 姐	ji 支	jo左	
ka卡	ke 茄			ku 箍
kwa 誇				
la 啦	le	li	lo 羅	lu
ma 媽	me 咩	mi 咪	mo 摩	
na 拿	ne 呢	ni 呢(個)	no 糯	
nga 牙			ngo 我	
pa 怕	pe	pi	po 婆	
sa 沙	se 些	si 市	so 梳	
ta 他		ti T	to 拖	tu
wa 蛙	we	wi	wo 窩	wu 胡
ya 也	ye 爺	yi 衣	yo	

Vocabulary practice

bā sí 巴士 bus

dō jeh 多謝 thank you sòh gwā 傻瓜 idiot

só sìh 鎖匙 key

dá gú 打鼓 play a drum

chā mh dō 差唔多 almost; more or less the same

chē dá jī sí 車打芝士 cheddar cheese
hī hī hā hā 嘻嘻哈哈 sound of laughter
lìh lī làh làh 呢呢拿拿 hurry up; hurriedly
mī mī mō mō 咪咪摩摩 do things slowly

bàh bā màh mā 爸爸媽媽 father and mother

gòh gō jèh jē 哥哥姐姐 elder brother; elder sister

Exercise	■1101.mn	3

Part I. Listen to the pronunciation and fill in the appropriate initials.

1. __o __a 2. __o __i 3. __o __o

Part II. Listen to the pronunciation and fill in the appropriate finals.

1. m___ g___ 2. y___ g___ 3. d___ s___

Part III. Listen and choose the correct romanization.

1. a. ka fe b. ga fe c. ga he d. ka fa 2. a. chi so b. ji su c. ju so d. chi su d. a wi 3. a. a ye b. nga pi c. nga yi 4. a. sa ce b. je chi c. nga fe d. ja che 5. a. ke ji b. ge se c. ku si d. ga je

Appendix 2 Vocabulary list

Part 1

Cantonese	English meaning	Chapter
āak 呃	to cheat	4
báau 飽	full stomach	10
Bāk-Tàahm-Chūng 北潭涌	Pak Tam Chung	8
bāt-yùh 不如	what about (to suggest)	2
behng 病	ill; illness; sick; sickness	5
behng-yàhn 病人	patient	5
bōng 幫	to help; to assist	1
bou gíng 報警	to report to the police	4
bun ga 半價	half-price	6
chāam-gā 參加	to participate; to join	6
chāan-tēng 餐廳	restaurant	2
chāu-tīn 秋天	autumn	8
chē 車	to take people by car	2
(yāt ga) chē (一架)車	a vehicle	1
chéng 請	to treat; to invite	4
chéng ga 請假	to take leave	5
chéng mahn 請問	may I ask	6
cheung sáan-jí 唱散子	to get small change	3
chēut heui 出去	to go out	7
chēut-méng 出名	famous	10
chìh 遲	late	3
chī-sin 黐線	crazy (literally, someone has crossed wires)	5
chīm méng 簽名	to sign a name; signature	1
cho 錯	wrong; mistake	4
chóh 坐	to sit; to ride in a car	2

Part 2

English meaning	Cantonese	Chapter
be able to	verb + dóu 到	1
absent-minded person	daaih-tàuh-hā 大頭蝦	6
to access the internet	séuhng móhng 上網	4
actually	kèih-saht 其實	6
be afraid of	pa 怕	8
afterwards	jī-hauh 之後	2
all; everything	verb + saai 晒	9
all day	sèhng yaht 成日	5
all of a sudden	daht-yìhn 突然	2
already	yíh-gīng 已經	2
and also	yauh 又	8
and then	gān-jyuh 跟住	3
to arrive	dou 到	3
to ask	giu 叫	1
to ask (question)	mahn 問	1
to assist	bōng 幫	1
at the time when	·····ge sìh-hauh 嘅時候	2
at last	jeui hauh 最後	3
autumn	chāu-tīn 秋天	8
bag	dói 袋	1
to barbeque; to roast	sīu 燒	10
big sale	dahk ga 特價	1
battery	dihn-chìh 電池	1
beach	sā-tāan 沙灘	8
because	yān-waih 因為	4
become conscious	séng 醒	3
becoming more and more	yuht-làih-yuht 越嚟越	9
believed to be	yíh-wàih 以為	6
be careful; take care	síu-sām 小心	10
birthday	sāang-yaht 生日	7
boring	muhn 悶	3
to borrow	je 借	2
boss	lóuh-sai 老細	5
both and	yauh 又	8