

## CLASSROOM PHRASES

Learn to respond to the following classroom instructions. First look at the English equivalents as the teacher reads the Cantonese instructions. Then close your books and listen to the teacher and watch his gestures to help you understand. Check your book if you have difficulty. The teacher will say each sentence several times to help you become familiar with the instructions. Your goal is to be able to respond to the Cantonese without doing mental translations into English. Knowing the scope of what to expect will make the details stand out clearly.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Ngóh jídou bīng, bīng jauh góng.                | 1. I'll point to someone, and that person should speak.                    |
| 2. Yíhgā ngóh duk, néihdeih sīn tēng.              | 2. Now I'll read aloud and you (plu.) first listen.                        |
| 3. Yíhgā néihdeih mǎhóu tái syù, gǎnjyuh ngóh duk. | 3. Now don't look at your books, and recite after me.                      |
| 4. Yíhgā néihdeih gǎnjyuh lai-geui gám jauh.       | 4. Do (the problems) according to the pattern set in the example sentence. |
| 5. Yíhgā ngóhdeih tái daih yāt go lihnjaahp.       | 5. Now we'll look at the first exercise.                                   |
| 6. Yíhgā ngóhdeih tái daih yāt geui.               | 6. Now we'll look at the first sentence.                                   |
| 7. Yáuh móuh mahntâih?                             | 7. Are there any questions? <u>OR</u><br>Do you have any questions?        |

## Responses:

Yáuh.

Have. (i.e., Yes, I have a question)

Móuh.

Don't have. (i.e., No, I don't have any questions.)

8. Nihng tái.  
9. Ngahp tái.

8. Shake the head.  
9. Nod the head.

## I. BASIC CONVERSATION

A. Buildup:

(Three colleagues, returning from lunch, are waiting for the elevator in their office building. Next to them two other businessmen are engaged in conversations)

Wòhng Siujé

wá	language
mēyéh wá a?	what language?
góng	speak
góng mēyéh wá a?	speak what language?
Kéuihdeih góng mēyéh wá a?	What language are they speaking?
ji <u>or</u> jidou	know
ji m̀hji a?	know/not know?
Néih ji m̀hji kéuihdeih	Do you know what language
góng mēyéh wá a?	they are speaking?
Gwokyúh	Mandarin
góng Gwokyúh	speak Mandarin
Haih m̀hahh góng Gwokyúh a?	Are they speaking Mandarin?

Chàhn Sàng

M̀hahh.	(They) are not.
Seuhnghóiwá	Shanghai dialect
Kéuihdeih góng Seuhnghóiwá.	They're speaking the Shanghai dialect.

Jèung Siujé

sík	know (how)
sík góng Seuhnghóiwá	know how to speak Shanghai dialect, be able to speak Shanghai dialect.
mē?	sentence suf., indicating surprised question
Néih sík góng Seuhnghóiwá mē?	You can speak Shanghai dialect?!

Chàhn Sàng

sèsiu	a little, somewhat
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jē		sentence suf., indicating 'merely', 'only', 'that's all'
Sík sèsiu jē.		I know a little, that's all.
	<u>Wòhng Siujé</u>	
tùhng		and
Seuhnghóiwá tùhng Gwokyúh		Shanghai dialect and Mandarin
dōu		both
kéuih dōu sík góng		he speaks both
Seuhnghóiwá tùhng Gwokyúh		he speaks both Shanghai dialect and Mandarin.
kéuih dōu sík góng		sen. suf. for matter of fact assertion.
ga		
Seuhnghóiwá tùhng Gwokyúh kéuih		He speaks both Shanghai dialect and Mandarin.
dōu sík góng ga.		
	<u>Jèung Siujé</u>	
Yingmán <u>or</u> Yingmáhn		English language
Gám, néih sík m̀hsík Yingmán a?		Well, do you know English?
	<u>Cháhn Sàng</u>	
sík góng sèsiu		can speak a little
sé		write
m̀hsík sé		can't write
daahnhaih		but
daahnhaih m̀hsík sé		but can't write
Sík góng sèsiu, daahnhaih m̀hsík		I can speak a little, but I
sé.		can't write.
	<u>Jèung Siujé</u>	
hohk		study, learn
séung		wish to, want to, would like to
séung hohk		would like to learn
séung hohk Yingmán		would like to learn English
dí		a little, some
séung hohk dí Yingmán		would like to learn a little English

Ngòh séung hoek dī Yíngmán--	I'd like to learn a little English--
dím a?	how?
dím góng a?	how (do you) say?
Yíngmán, díng góng a?	how is it said in English?
yāt yih sàam sei ngh	one two three four five
Yāt yih sàam sei ngh, Yíngmán	How do you say 'one two three
dím góng a?	four five' in English?

Chàhn Sàng

One two three four five.

One two three four five.

Jèung Siujé

chingchó	clear
mhchingchó	not clear
Ngòh têng mhchingchó.	I didn't hear clearly.
yāt chi	one time, once
góng yāt chi	say (it) one time
joi	again
joi góng yāt chi	say (it) once again
mhgòì néih	Would you please ...
Mhgòì néih joi góng yāt chi.	Would you please say it once again?

B. Recapitulation:Wòhng Siujé:

Néih jì mhjì kéuihdeih góng mēyéh	What language are they speaking?
wá a? Haih mhhaih góng Gwokyúh a?	Are they speaking Mandarin?

Chàhn Sàng:

Mhhaih. Kéuihdeih góng Seuhnghóiwá.	(They) are not. They're speaking the Shanghai dialect.
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Jèung Siujé:

Néih sīk góng Seuhnghóiwá mē?	You can speak the Shanghai dialect?
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Chàhn Sàng:

Sīk sèsiu jē.	I know a little, that's all.
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Wòhng Siujé:

Seuhnghéiwá tùhng Gwokýuh                      He speaks both Shanghai dialect  
kéuih dōu sīk góng ga.                              and Mandarin.

Jèung Siujé:

Gám, néih sīk àhsīk Yíngmán a?                      Well, do you know English?

Chàhn Sàang:

Sīk góng sèsiu, daahnhaih àhsīk                      I can speak a little, but I  
sé.    can't write.

Jèung Siujé:

Ngóh séung hohk dī Yíngmán--                      I'd like to learn a little  
Yāt yih sàam sei ngh, Yíngmán                      English--How do you say  
dīm góng a?    'one two three four five'  
in English?

Chàhn Sàang:

One two three four five.                              One two three four five.

Jèung Siujé:

Ngóh tèng àhchíngchó. Àngòì                      I didn't hear clearly. Would  
néih joi góng yāt chí.                              you please say it once again.

+ + + + + + + + + + + + +

Pronunciation

## 1. Open vowels before nasal consonants:

Practice the open vowel before a nasal final in the syllables of that structure you have had thus far in the text. Hold your nose, listen, and repeat:

-m: gám 敢 gám , sàam 衫 sàam .  
-n: Yahtbún 日本 Yahtbún ,  
Chàhn 陳 Chàhn , jóusàhn 早晨 jóusàhn .  
-ng: séung 想 séung , Jèung 張 Jèung ,  
góng 講 góng , sīnsàang 先生 sīnsàang ,  
sing 姓 sing , gwaising 貴姓 gwaising .

## 2. Nasalized vowel following nasal consonant:

Vowels following nasal consonants in the same syllable are nasalized in Cantonese, whereas in English a vowel following a nasal consonant in the same syllable is open.

Listen to your teacher as he holds his nose and says:

ngóh 我

néih 你  
 nē 呢  
 Máh 馬  
 Yíngmán 英文

You notice that the vowels are partially blocked when the nose is blocked, revealing that some air is normally released through the nose. Repeat the above words after your teacher, holding your nose to test if you are nasalizing the vowel.

If you can't quite say these right your pronunciation will sound foreign accented, but it won't make any significant difference because what you say won't have some other meaning, as it might if you got the tone wrong.

3. eung practice:

1. séung séung séung
2. Jèung Jèung Jèung

4. eui practice: (Remember that the -i here represents the lip-rounded yu sound.)

1. kéuih kéuih kéuih
2. deui<sup>m</sup>h<sup>j</sup>yuh deui deui

5. eui/oi contrast practice:

1. deui deui deui
2. joi joi joi
3. deui joi , deui joi , deui joi .
4. joi deui , joi deui , joi deui .

6. ok, as in hohk, Júnggwok

-k: k in final position is produced by the back of the tongue pressing against the roof of the mouth, stopping the air flow at the junction of the hard and soft palates. In final position k is unreleased--[k<sup>h</sup>].

o: o before k has the same value as o elsewhere--mid back rounded vowel: [ɔ].

Listen and repeat:

1. hohk 學 (5 times)
2. Júnggwok 中國 (5 times)
3. ngóh hohk 我學 , ngóh hohk , ngóh hohk .
4. joi hohk 再學 , joi hohk , joi hohk .

5. hohk <sup>學</sup> góng <sup>講</sup> , hohk góng , hohk góng .

7. ng as in ng

The velar nasal consonant ng occurs as a vowel, in that the consonant ng is syllabic in the syllable ng. (There are also two surnames using the syllable ng.)

Listen and repeat:

- 想 五 1. séung séung , ng ng .  
 我 五 2. ngoh ngoh , ng ng .  
 一 二 三 四 五 3. yāt yih sàam sei ng .

II. NOTES

A. Culture Notes:

1. Chinese languages

Gwóngdùngwá: The language spoken in the area roughly coinciding with Kwangtung Province in SE China is called Gwóng-dùngwá 'Kwangtung - speech.' In English it is referred to as 'Cantonese,' named after the major city in which it was spoken when Westerners arrived in China and began to learn it.

There are many dialects of Gwóngdùngwá, of which the recognized standard is the language of Canton and Hong Kong. This book will not concern itself with the many dialects, but will concentrate solely on Standard Cantonese. (The dialect of Cantonese spoken by most American Chinese is Tòih sāanwá, spoken in Toishan county in Southern Kwangtung, from whence most American Chinese emigrated.)

Gwok yúh: [national-language] called in English 'Mandarin,' is the native language of the greater part of north and northwest China. Mandarin has been promoted as the national language by both the Communist Chinese and the Nationalists and is the language of instruction in the school systems of both China and Taiwan.

Seuhnghóiwá: 'Shanghai dialect' spoken in the area around Shanghai on the East Coast of China.

2. Dialect differences in Standard Cantonese: initial n l

In Standard Cantonese as spoken in Hong Kong there exist variations in pronunciation which cannot be called substandard, since they are used by educated persons. One such variation is to substitute an l sound for an n sound in words and syllables which begin with n. Some educated speakers do not have initial n in their speech, and substitute l wherever n occurs. This is quite common in Hong Kong.

Ex: néih → léih 'you (sing.)'  
 néihdeih → léihdeih 'you (plu.)'

B. Structure Notes:1. Uninflected verb forms in Cantonese:

Verbs in English have compulsory differences in form (inflections) to represent action in progress (is eating), intended action (going to eat), past action (ate), general statement (eats), and others.

Broadly speaking, Cantonese verbs do not have the same compulsory differences in form. One form may cover action in progress, intended action, past action, general statement. For example: Kéuih gaau Gwóngdùngwá can mean: He is teaching Cantonese, He taught Cantonese, He teaches Cantonese.

(See Drill 1, 6)

Additional elements may be used by the speaker to particularize action in progress, repeated action, accomplished action, etc., but their use is not the compulsory feature of the language that it is in English.

2. Verbs in series: affirmative, negative, and question forms.

1. When two verbs occur together in series, it is the first verb which forms a set with the negative and the choice-type question.

Example: Kéuih sík góng Gwokýúh. He can speak Mandarin.  
 Kéuih mhsík góng Gwokýúh. He can't speak Mandarin.  
 Kéuih sík mhsík góng Gwokýúh a? Can he speak Mandarin?

2. haih is frequently used in series with action verbs in the negative and in choice questions, but not normally in the affirmative or in question-word questions.

|  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| (QWQ): Kéuihdeih <u>góng</u> mēyéh<br>wá a?    | What language are they<br>speaking?   |
| (CHQ): <u>Haih mhhaih góng</u><br>Gwokýúh a?   | Are they speaking Mandarin?           |
| (Neg): <u>Mhhaih góng</u> Gwokýúh--            | (They're) not speaking<br>Mandarin--  |
| (Aff): Kéuihdeih <u>góng</u> Seuhng-<br>hóiwá. | They're speaking Shanghai<br>dialect. |

(See BC)

3. Sentence suffix mē

mē is an interrogative sentence suffix indicating surprised question. mē makes a question sentence of the statement sentence it attaches to, with the force of "What?! I can hardly believe it!"

Ex: Néih sīk góng Seuhnghóiwá mē?! What?! You can speak Shanghai dialect?!

(See BC and Drill 2)

4. Sentence suffix jē.

jē has the force of "merely," "only," "that's all." Alternate pronunciations are ja, or je.

Ex: Sīk góng sèsíu jē. I can speak just a bit,  
that's all.

5. Sentence suffix ga

1. Sentence suffix ga (usually pronounced [kə], similar to the gu sound in the English word "Gus") attaches to a sentence, giving a matter-of-fact connotation to the sentiment expressed.

Ex. (from Basic Conversation):

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| Seuhnghóiwá tühng Gwokýúh | Shanghai dialect and Mandar-             |
| Kéuih dōu sīk góng ga.    | in, he can speak both,<br>that's a fact. |

The implication is that there's nothing extraordinary about it, that's simply the way it is.

2. Matter-of-fact ga and NP forming ge.

These two are sometimes difficult to differentiate. A test is that a NP ge sentence either uses the verb haih or can be expanded with haih, but a matter-of-fact ga sentence can't always be expanded with haih.

Ex: 1. Kéuih haih gaau Ying-      He is someone who teaches  
mán ge.                                      English.

(See Drill 18)

2. Kéuih (haih) sing                      He is someone named Wong.  
Wòhng ge.

3. Seuhnghóiwá tùhng                      Shanghai dialect and Manda-  
Gwokýuh kéuih dōu sīk                      rin, he can speak both,  
góng ga.                                      that's a fact.

6. Loose relationship of Subject-Predicate in Cantonese: Subject + Predicate as Topic + Comment.

We described full sentences above in Lesson One as being composed of Subject and Predicate, in that order.

Below are examples of Subject-Predicate sentences:

| <u>Subject</u>                  | <u>Predicate</u>           |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Ngóh                         | sing Chàhn.                |
| 2. Kéuih                        | sīk góng Seuhnghóiwá mē?;  |
| 3. Néih pàhngyáuh               | góng mēyéh wá a?           |
| 4. Siujé                        | gwaising a?                |
| 5. Yingmán                      | dím góng?                  |
| 6. Yāt yih sàam                 | Yingmán díng góng a?       |
| 7. Seuhnghóiwá<br>tùhng Gwokýuh | kéuih dōu sīk góng ga.     |
| 8. Néih jǐ mǎhjí                | kéuihdeih góng mēyéh wá a? |

You will note from the sentences above that Subject in Cantonese does not cover the same territory that Subject in English does. For example, Sentence No. 7 above might be rendered in English: "Shanghai dialect and Mandarin--he can speak both." The subject of that sentence is "he." If you were to say "Shanghai dialect and Mandarin are both spoken by him," the subject would be "Shanghai dialect and Mandarin." In English the subject of



| <u>Subject</u> | <u>Predicate</u>   |                  |
|----------------|--------------------|------------------|
|                | Nominal Expression |                  |
| Síusing        | Hòh.               | My name (is) Ho. |
| Síujé          | gwaising a?        | Miss your name?  |

c. Sentence Predicate. The predicate can be in itself a full Subject-Predicate sentence.

| Ex: <u>Subject</u> | <u>Predicate</u>            |   |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| Ngóh m̄hjǐ         | kéuihdeih góng<br>m̄yéh wá? | I don't know what<br>language they are<br>speaking. |
| Yāt yih sàam       | Yíngmán dím góng a?         | How do you say, one<br>two three in<br>English?     |
| Yāt yih sàam       | kéuih dōu m̄hsík<br>góng.   | He can't even say one<br>two three.                 |

#### 8. Subject-Verb-Object (SVO) Sentence.

A Subject-Predicate sentence in which the predicate contains a verb and its object is a very frequent sentence type in Cantonese. We take Subject-Verb-Object (SVO) as the base form of the Cantonese sentence.

|                |              |
|----------------|--------------|
| Ex: Subject:   | Predicate:   |
| subject        | verb object  |
| Kéuihdeih góng | Seuhnghóiwá. |

#### 9. Absence of pronoun object.

Compare Cantonese and English:

|                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| 1A. Néih sĭk m̄hsík Yíngmán a?   | 1A. Do you know English?                  |
| B. Ngóh sĭk góng, m̄hsík sé.     | B. I can speak (it), can't<br>write (it). |
| 2. M̄ngòl néih joi góng yāt chi. | 2. Please say (it) once again.            |

Note that English requires a pronoun object, and Cantonese does not.

10. Subjectless sentence. The predicate sentence with no subject is a very common sentence type in Chinese.

Ex: Sĭk sèsiu jē. = (I) know just a little.

Note that the counterpart English sentence requires stated subject. (We are referring here to statement sentences ('I study'), not to imperative sentences ('study!'), which we will take up in Lesson 5.)

11. tùhng and yauh

- 1.
- tùhng
- , 'and,' links nominal expressions.

Seuhng hóiwá tùhng Gwok yúh kéuih dōu sīk góng ga.

He knows how to speak both Shanghai dialect and Mandarin.

(See Drills 10, 11)

- 2.
- yauh
- , 'and,' links verbal expressions. It is classed as an adverb because it is always linked to a verb, preceding it.

Kéuih sīk góng yauh sīk sé.

He can speak and write.

(See Drill 9)

- 3.
- yauh
- can be in a set with a second
- yauh
- , with the force of 'both... and ...'

Kéuih yauh sīk góng yauh sīk sé.

He can both speak and write.

(See Drill 9)

12. dōu 'also,' 'both,' 'all'; 'even'dōu is classed as an adverb, because it appears always linked to a verb, preceding it.Ex: 1. Ngóh dōu haih Seuhng-  
hóiyahn.I am also a Shanghai  
person.2. Kéuih dōu sīk góng  
Gwok yuh.He also can speak  
Mandarin.3. Seuhng hóiwá tùhng  
Gwok yúh kéuih  
dōu sīk góng ga.He can speak both Shanghai  
dialect and Mandarin.13. dōu, 'even'In the Subject-Predicate pattern X dōu negative Verb, dōu translates into English as 'even'.Ex: Yāt yih sàam (kéuih)  
dōu m̄hsīk góng.(He) can't even say 'one  
two three.'

(See Drill 14)

14. Auxiliary verbs.Auxiliary verbs take other verbs as their objects. Two auxiliary verbs appear in Lesson Three: sīk, 'know (how),' and séung 'want to, plan to, be considering, have (it) in mind to ...'

Ex: 1. Néih sīk góng Seuhng hóiwá m̄?!

You know how to speak Shanghai dialect?!

2. Ngóh séung hohk dí Yíngmán.

I want to learn a little English.

(See BC and Drill 2, 3, 4, 7)

15. sík 'know (how),' 'be acquainted with'; 'know (someone)'

sík operates both as an auxiliary verb and as a main verb.

1. As an auxiliary verb:

Ex: Kéuih sík góng Gwokýúh. He can speak Mandarin.

(See Drill 2)

2. As a main verb:

Ex: 1. Kéuih m̀hsík Seuhnghóiwá. He is unacquainted with  
Shanghai dialect.

(See Drill 2a)

2. Ngóh m̀hsík kéuih. I don't know him.

(See Drill 13)

### III. DRILLS

1. Transformation Drill: Transform the sentences from question to statement, following the pattern of the example.

Ex: T: Kéuih góng mēyéh wá a? T: What language is he speaking?  
+ wá a? /Gwóngdùngwá/ /Cantonese/  
(Cantonese)

S: Kéuih góng Gwóng- S: He's speaking Cantonese.  
dùngwá.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Kéuih góng mēyéh wá a?<br>/Seuhnghóiwá/  | 1. Kéuih góng Seuhnghóiwá.                          |
| 2. Kéuih góng mēyéh wá a?   | 2. Kéuih góng Gwokýúh.                              |
| 3. Kéuih góng mēyéh wá a?<br>Yíngmáhn/  | 3. Kéuih góng Yíngmáhn.                             |
| + 4. Kéuih góng mēyéh wá a?<br>/Yahtbúnwá/<br>( <u>Japanese spoken language</u> ) | 4. Kéuih góng Yahtbúnwá.<br>He's speaking Japanese. |
| 5. Kéuih góng mēyéh wá a?<br>/Gwóngdùngwá/  | 5. Kéuih góng Gwóngdùngwá.                          |

Comment: The examples in this drill could also serve as general statements:

T: What language(s) does he speak?

S: He speaks Cantonese.

## 2. Substitution Drill

- Ex: T: Kéuihdeih sīk góng Gwóngdùngwá.  
/Seuhnghóiwá/  
S: Kéuihdeih sīk góng Seuhnghóiwá.
- T: They can speak Cantonese.  
/Shanghai dialect/  
S: They can speak Shanghai dialect.
1. Kéuih sīk góng Yíngmahn.  
/Gwóngdùngwá/
  2. Wòhng Sàang sīk góng Gwóngdùngwá.
  3. Hòh Táai sīk góng Gwokyúh.  
/Seuhnghóiwá/
  4. Hòh Sīnsàang sīk góng Seuhnghóiwá. /Yíngmán/
  5. Chàhn Siujé sīk góng Yíngmán.  
/Yahtbúnwá/
1. Kéuih sīk góng Gwóngdùngwá.
  2. Wòhng Sàang sīk góng Gwokyúh.
  3. Hòh Táai sīk góng Seuhnghóiwá.
  4. Hòh Sīnsàang sīk góng Yíngmán.
  5. Chàhn Siujé sīk góng Yahtbúnwá.
- a. Repeat, omitting góng:
- T: Kéuihdeih sīk Gwóngdùngwá. /Seuhnghóiwá/ They know Cantonese.  
/Shanghai dialect/  
S: Kéuihdeih sīk Seuhnghóiwá. They know Shanghai dialect.
- b. Repeat, adding mē:
- T: Kéuihdeih sīk góng Gwóngdùngwá. They know Cantonese.  
S: Kéuihdeih sīk góng Gwóngdùngwá mē!?! They know Cantonese?!?

## 3. Transformation Drill

- Ex: T: Méihgwokyáhn m̀hsīk góng Gwóngdùngwá. Americans can't speak Cantonese.  
S: Méihgwokyáhn sīk m̀hsīk góng Gwóngdùngwá a? Can Americans speak Cantonese?
1. Kéuih m̀hsīk góng Yíngmán.
  2. Hòh Siujé sīk góng Seuhnghóiwá.
1. Kéuih sīk m̀hsīk góng Yíngmán a?
  2. Hòh Siujé sīk m̀hsīk góng Seuhnghóiwá a?

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 3. Kéuihdeih sīk góng Gwokyúh.   | 3. Kéuihdeih sīk m̄hsīk góng Gwokyúh a?  |
| + 4. Méihgwokyáhn m̄hsīk sé <u>Jùngmàhn</u> .<br>Americans can't write Chinese.        | 4. Méihgwokyáhn sīk m̄hsīk sé Jùngmàhn a?<br>Do Americans know how to write Chinese. |
| + 5. Kéuih sīk <u>gaau</u> Yahtbúnwá.<br>He knows how to <u>teach</u> spoken Japanese. | 5. Kéuih sīk m̄hsīk gaau Yahtbúnwá a?  |

## 4. Response Drill

Ex: T: Kéuih hohk Gwóng-dùngwá.  
/Seuhnghóiwá/ T: He studies Cantonese.  
/Shanghai dialect/

S: Gám, kéuih hohk m̄hhohk Seuhnghóiwá a? S: Well, then, does he study Shanghai dialect?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. Kéuih sīk Yíngmán. /Jùngmàhn/            | 1. Gám, kéuih sīk m̄hsīk Jùngmán a?          |
| 2. Kéuih gaau Gwóngdùngwá.<br>/Gwokyúh/     | 2. Gám, kéuih gaau m̄hgaau Gwok-yuh a?       |
| 3. Kéuih sīk góng Gwokyúh.<br>/Seuhnghóiwá/ | 3. Gám, kéuih sīk m̄hsīk góng Seuhnghóiwá a? |
| 4. Kéuih sīk sé Jùngmàhn.<br>/Yíngmán/      | 4. Gám, kéuih sīk m̄hsīk sé Yíngmàhn a?      |
| 5. Kéuih sīk gaau Yíngmán.<br>/Gwóngdùngwá/ | 5. Gám, kéuih sīk m̄hsīk gaau Gwóngdùngwá a? |

Comment: gám is a sentence prefix with the connotation of continuing from before, resuming the thread of previous discourse. The closest English approximations would be 'In that case,...', 'Then,...', 'Well, then,...' but these don't always fit. Gám is very frequent in Cantonese, but if translated in counterpart English sentences is not usually idiomatic. We will usually not translate gám in the English sentences. In the above examples gám is translated as 'Well, then,' suggesting continuation from the previous statement.

## 5. Transformation Drill

Ex: T: Wòhng Sàang hohk Gwóngdùngwá. T: Mr. Wong is studying Cantonese.

S: Wòhng Sàang haih  
m̀hahh hohk  
Gwóngdùngwá a?

1. Léih Táai gaau Gwokýúh.
2. Hòh Sàang góng Yíngmán.
3. Chàhn Siujé sé Jùngmàhn.
4. Jèung Sàang sīk góng  
Yahtbúnwá.
5. Làuh Táai sīk gaau Gwóng-  
dùngwá.

S: Is Mr. Wong studying Cantonese?

1. Léih Táai haih m̀hahh gaau  
Gwokýúh a?
2. Hòh Sàang haih m̀hahh góng  
Yíngmán a?
3. Chàhn Siujé haih m̀hahh sé  
Jùngmàhn a?
4. Jèung Sàang haih m̀hahh sīk  
góng Yahtbúnwá a?
5. Làuh Táai haih m̀hahh sīk  
gaau Gwóngdùngwá a?

### 6. Question and Answer Drill

Ex: T: Wòhng Sàang sé  
Yíngmàhn.  
+ /Yahtmàhn/(or)  
Yahtmán/

S<sub>1</sub>: Wòhng Sàang haih  
m̀hahh sé Yahtmán a?

S<sub>2</sub>: M̀hahh. Kéuih m̀hahh  
sé Yahtmán; kéuih  
sé Yíngmàhn.

1. Jèung Táai góng Gwokýúh.  
/Seuhng hóiwá/
2. Wòhng Táai gaau Gwóngdùngwá.  
/Yíngmàhn/
3. Léih Sàang hohk Yíngmàhn.  
/Yahtbúnwá/

Mr. Wong is writing English  
(right now). /Japanese/

Is Mr. Wong writing Japanese?

No, he's not writing Japanese,  
he's writing English.

1. S<sub>1</sub>: Jèung Táai haih m̀hahh  
góng Seuhng hóiwá a?  
S<sub>2</sub>: M̀hahh. Kéuih m̀hahh  
góng Seuhng hóiwá,  
kéuih góng Gwokýúh.
2. S<sub>1</sub>: Wòhng Táai haih m̀hahh  
gaau Yíngmàhn a?  
S<sub>2</sub>: M̀hahh. Kéuih m̀hahh  
gaau Yíngmàhn; kéuih  
gaau Gwóngdùngwá.
3. S<sub>1</sub>: Léih Sàang haih m̀hahh  
hohk Yahtbúnwá a?  
S<sub>2</sub>: M̀hahh. Kéuih m̀hahh  
hohk Yahtbúnwá; kéuih  
hohk Yíngmàhn.

Comment: The above sentence may also be translated 'He writes'  
instead of 'He is writing,' etc. For example:  
sé Yíngmàhn, 'writes English'--not knows how to,

but does it as a habit, custom or general rule. For instance, He writes English at the office. Likewise for sentences with main verb hohk, gaau, and góng. The situational context, not the structural form of the Cantonese verb, makes the meaning clear.

## 7. Expansion Drill

- Ex: T: Ngóh sĭk góng Gwokýúh. I can speak Mandarin.  
/Seuhnghóiwá/ /Shanghai dialect/
- S: Ngóh sĭk góng Gwokýúh, I can speak Mandarin, but not  
daahnhaih m̄hsĭk góng the Shanghai dialect.  
Seuhnghóiwá.
1. Ngóh sĭk góng Gwóngdùngwá. 1. Ngóh sĭk góng Gwóngdùngwá,  
/Seuhnghóiwá/ daahnhaih m̄hsĭk góng  
Seuhnghóiwá.
  2. Kéuih sĭk góng Yíngmán. 2. Kéuih sĭk góng Yíngmán,  
/Gwokýúh/ daahnhaih m̄hsĭk góng  
Gwokýúh.
  - + 3. Kéuihdeih sĭk góng Tòihśānwá. 3. Kéuihdeih sĭk góng Tòihśān-  
They can speak Toishan wá, daahnhaih m̄hsĭk góng  
dialect. /Yíngmán/ Yíngmán.
  4. Hòh Táai sĭk góng Gwokýúh. 4. Hòh Táai sĭk góng Gwokýúh,  
/Gwóngdùngwá/ daahnhaih m̄hsĭk góng  
Gwóngdùngwá.
  5. Chàhn Táai sĭk góng Yíngmán. 5. Chàhn Táai sĭk góng Yíng-  
/Yahtbúnwá/ mán, daahnhaih m̄hsĭk góng  
Yahtbúnwá.

## 8. Expansion Drill

- Ex: T: Ngóh sĭk góng Yíng- I can speak English. /Cantonese/  
máhn. /Gwóngdùngwá/
- S: Ngóh sĭk góng Yíngmáhn; I can speak English; (and I)  
dōu sĭk góng Gwóng- can also speak Cantonese.  
dùngwá.
1. Ngóh sĭk góng Gwóngdùngwá. 1. Ngóh sĭk góng Gwóngdùngwá'  
/Seuhnghóiwá/ dōu sĭk góng Seuhnghóiwá.
  2. Kéuih sĭk Gwokýúh. /Yíngmán/ 2. Kéuih sĭk góng Gwokýúh;  
dōu sĭk góng Yíngmán.
  3. Léih Sàang sĭk góng Seuhn- 3. Léih Sàang sĭk góng Seuhn-  
hóiwá. /Gwokýúh/ hóiwá; dōu sĭk góng Gwokýúh.

4. Chàhn Táai sĭk góng Yíngmán. /Gwóngdùngwá/  
 4. Chàhn Táai sĭk góng Yíngmán; dōu sĭk góng Gwóngdùngwá.
5. Hòh Siujé sĭk góng Seuhnghóiwá. /Gwóngdùngwá/  
 5. Hòh Siujé sĭk góng Seuhnghóiwá; dōu sĭk góng Gwóngdùngwá.

## 9. Expansion Drill

- Ex: T: Kéuih sĭk góng Gwóngdùngwá. /Gwok-yuh/  
 He can speak Cantonese. /Mandarin/  
 + S: Kéuih (yauh) sĭk góng Gwóngdùngwá, yauh sĭk góng Gwok-yuh. He can speak Cantonese and Mandarin. or He can speak both Cantonese and Mandarin.  
 [(both) ... and ...]
1. Kéuih hohk Yahtmán. /Yíngmán/  
 1. Kéuih jauh hohk Yahtmán, jauh hohk Yíngmán. He's studying written Japanese and English.
2. Ngóh gaau Jùngmán. /Yíngmán/  
 2. Ngóh jauh gaau Jùngmán, jauh gaau Yíngmán.
3. Kéuih sĭk sé Yíngmán. /Yahtmán/  
 3. Kéuih jauh sĭk sé Yíngmán, jauh sĭk sé Yahtmán.
4. Kéuih m̀hah Méihgwok-yahn. /Yínggwok-yahn/  
 4. Kéuih jauh m̀hah Méihgwok-yahn, jauh m̀hah Yínggwok-yahn.
5. Ngóh m̀hohk góng Gwok-yuh. /Seuhnghóiwá/  
 5. Ngóh jauh m̀hohk góng Gwok-yuh, jauh m̀hohk góng Seuhnghóiwá.

## 10. Expansion Drill

- Ex: T: Léih Sàang haih Seuhnghóiyahn. /Léih Táai/  
 Mr. Lee is from Shanghai /Mrs. Lee/  
 S: Léih Sàang tùng Léih Táai dōu haih Seuhnghóiyahn. Mr. [Lee] and Mrs. Lee are both from Shanghai.
1. Wòhng Táai sĭk góng Gwok-yuh. /Chàhn Siujé/  
 1. Wòhng Táai tùng Chàhn Siujé dōu sĭk góng Gwok-yuh.
2. Kéuih sĭk Wòhng Sàang. /ngóh/  
 2. Kéuih tùng ngóh dōu sĭk Wòhng Sàang.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 3. Jèung Siujé hohk Gwóngdùngwá.<br>/kéuih pahngyáuh/ | 3. Jèung Siujé tùhng kéuih<br>pahngyáuh dōu hohk Gwóng-<br>dùngwá. |
| 4. Ngóh haih sing Jèung ge.<br>/kéuih/                | 4. Ngóh tùhng kéuih dōu haih<br>sing Jèung ge.                     |
| 5. Hòh Táai sīk sé Yahtmáhn.<br>/Chàhn Siujé/         | 5. Hòh Táai tùhng Chàhn Siujé<br>dōu sīk sé Yahtmáhn.              |

## 11. Expansion Drill

Ex: T: Kéuih sīk góng Gwokyúh. He can speak Mandarin. /Canton-  
/Gwóngdùngwá/ ese/

S: Kéuih sīk góng Gwokyúh He can speak Mandarin and  
tùhng Gwóngdùngwá. Cantonese.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Kéuih hohk Yíngmán. /Yahtmán/                                   | 1. Kéuih hohk Yíngmán tùhng<br>Yahtmán.                               |
| 2. Kéuihdeih gaau Jùngmáhn.<br>/Yíngmán/                           | 2. Kéuihdeih gaau Jùngmáhn<br>tùhng Yíngmán.                          |
| 3. Léih Táai sīk sé Yahtmáhn.<br>/Jùngmáhn/                        | 3. Léih Táai sīk sé Yahtmán<br>tùhng Jùngmáhn.                        |
| + 4. Ngóh sīk Léih Sàang. /Léih<br>Táai/ ( <u>know (someone)</u> ) | 4. Ngóh sīk Léih Sàang tùhng<br>Léih Táai.<br>I know Mr. and Mrs Lee. |

## 12. Substitution Drill

+ Ex: T: Bíngō gaau Gwóng-  
dùngwá a?  
/Léih Sàang/

Who teaches Cantonese?

S: Léih Sàang gaau Gwóng-  
dùngwá. Mr. Lee teaches Cantonese.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Bíngō góng Seuhng hóiwá a?<br>/Hòh Táai/     | 1. Hòh Táai góng Seuhng hóiwá.          |
| 2. Bíngō hohk Gwokyúh a?<br>/Wòhng Sàang/       | 2. Wòhng Sàang hohk Gwokyúh.            |
| 3. Bíngō gaau Yíngmáhn a?<br>/Chàhn Siujé/      | 3. Chàhn Siujé gaau Yíngmáhn.           |
| 4. Bíngō sīk góng Yahtbúnwá a?<br>/Jèung Sàang/ | 4. Jèung Sàang sīk góng Yaht-<br>búnwá. |

5. Bīngō sīk gaau Gwóngdùngwá  
a? /Léih Táai/

5. Léih Táai sīk gaau Gwóng-  
dùngwá.

## 13. Response &amp; Expansion Drill

Ex: 1.T: Néih sīk m̄hsīk  
Wòhng Sàang a?  
/nod/

T: Do you know Mr. Wong?

S: Ngóh sīk kéuih.  
Kéuih haih ngóh  
páhngyáuh.

S: Yes, he is a friend of mine.

2.T: Néih sīk m̄hsīk  
Wòhng Sàang a?  
/shake/

T: Do you know Mr. Wong?

S: Ngóh m̄hsīk kéuih.  
Kéuih haih bīngō  
a?

S: No, who is he?

1. Néih sīk m̄hsīk Hòh Táai a?  
/nod/

1. Ngóh sīk kéuih. Kéuih haih  
ngóh páhngyáuh.

2. Néih sīk m̄hsīk Chàhn Sàang a?  
/shake/

2. Ngóh m̄hsīk kéuih. Kéuih haih  
bīngō a?

3. Néih sīk m̄hsīk Jèung Síujé a?  
/nod/

3. Ngóh sīk kéuih. Kéuih haih  
ngóh páhngyáuh.

4. Néih sīk m̄hsīk Léih Sàang a?  
/shake/

4. Ngóh m̄hsīk kéuih. Kéuih haih  
bīngō a?

## 14. Response Drill

Ex: T: Néih sīk m̄hsīk góng  
Yahtbúnwá a?  
/shake/

T: Do you know how to speak  
Japanese? /shake/

S: M̄hsīk. Yahtbúnwá  
+ ngóh yāt geui dōu  
m̄hsīk góng.

S: No. I don't even know one  
sentence in Japanese.

T: /nod/

S: Sīk sèsiu jē.

S: (I) know just a little.

1. Néih sīk m̄hsīk góng Gwóng-  
dùngwá a? /shake/

1. M̄hsīk. Gwóngdùngwá ngóh  
yāt geui dōu m̄hsīk góng.

2. Néih sīk m̄hsīk góng Gwokýuh a?  
/shake/

2. M̄hsīk. Gwokýuh ngóh yāt geui  
dōu m̄hsīk góng.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 3. Néih sīk m̄hsīk góng Seuhng-hóiwá a? /nod/ | 3. Sīk sèsiu jē.                                    |
| 4. Néih sīk m̄hsīk góng Yingmáhn a? /nod/     | 4. Sīk sèsiu jē.                                    |
| 5. Néih sīk m̄hsīk góng Yahtbúnwá a? /shake/  | 5. M̄hsīk. Yahtbúnwá ngóh yāt geui dōu m̄hsīk góng. |

## 15. Expansion Drill

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| Ex: T: Kéuihdeih góng mēyèh wá a?           | T: What language are they speaking?            |
| S: Néih jī m̄hji kéuihdeih góng mēyèh wá a? | S: Do you know what language they're speaking? |
- 
- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Kéuih sing mēyèh a?<br>What is his name?               | 1. Néih jī m̄hji kéuih sing mēyèh a?<br>Do you know what his name is?               |
| 2. Kéuih gaau mēyèh wá a?<br>What language does he teach? | 2. Néih jī m̄hji kéuih gaau mēyèh wá a?   |
| 3. Kéuih sé mēyèh a?<br>What is he writing?               | 3. Néih jī m̄hji kéuih sé mēyèh a?  |
| 4. Kéuih haih bīngó a?<br>Who is he?                      | 4. Néih jī m̄hji kéuih haih bīngó a?  |
| 5. Kéuih haihm̄h haih sing Hòh ga?<br>Is her name Ho?     | 5. Néih jī m̄hji kéuih haih m̄h haih sing Hòh ga?<br>Do you know if her name is Ho? |

## 16. Translation Drill

- |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| Ex: T: "Pàhngyáuh" Yingmán dím góng a? | T: How do you say "friend" in English |
| S: Friend                              | S: Friend.                            |
- 
- |                                      |                |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. "Hohk," Yingmán dím góng a?       | 1. "Learn".    |
| 2. "Gaau," Yingmán dím góng a?       | 2. "Teach!"    |
| 3. "Daahn haih," Yingmán dím góng a? | 3. "But."      |
| 4. "Sèsiu," Yingmán dím góng a?      | 4. "A little!" |
| 5. "Gwok yúh," Yingmán dím góng a?   | 5. "Mandarin!" |

- |                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| 6. "Jidou", Yingmán dím góng a?     | 6. "Know" (something)."                     |
| 7. "Sík", Yingmán dím góng a?       | 7. "Know how to <u>or</u> know (a person)." |
| 8. "Sé", Yingmán dím góng a?        | 8. "Write."                                 |
| 9. "Hohksāang", Yingmán dím góng a? | 9. "Student."                               |

## 17. Translation Drill

- |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| Ex: T: "Two" Gwóngdùngwá dím góng a?             | T: How do you say "two" in Cantonese? |
| S: "Yih".  | S: "Yih".                             |
| 1. "Three" Gwóngdùngwá dím góng a?               | 1. "Sàam."                            |
| 2. "Teach" Gwóngdùngwá dím góng a?               | 2. "Gaaу."                            |
| 3. "They" Gwóngdùngwá dím góng a?                | 3. "Kéuihdeih."                       |
| 4. "Who" Gwóngdùngwá dím góng a?                 | 4. "Bíngо."                           |
| 5. "Know how" Gwóngdùngwá dím góng a?            | 5. "Sík."                             |
| 6. "But" Gwóngdùngwá dím góng a?                 | 6. "Daahnhaih."                       |
| 7. "Please say it again" Gwóngdùngwá dím góng a? | 7. "Mhgoi néih joi góng yāt chí."     |
| 8. "I don't know" Gwóngdùngwá dím góng a?        | 8. "Ngóh m̀hji."                      |
| 9. "Teacher" Gwóngdùngwá dím góng a?             | 9. "Sĩnsàang."                        |
| 10. "Four" Gwóngdùngwá dím góng a?               | 10. "Sei."                            |
| 11. "Five" Gwóngdùngwá dím góng a?               | 11. "Ńgh."                            |

## 18. Response Drill:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| Ex: T: Kéuih haih bíngо a?<br>/gaaу Yingmán/ | T: Who is he?<br>/teach English/        |
| S: Kéuih haih gaaу<br>Yingmán ge.            | S: He's someone who teaches<br>English. |

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Kéuih haih bīngō a?<br>/sing wòhng/       | 1. Kéuih haih sing wòhng ge.            |
| 2. Kéuih haih bīngō a?<br>/gaaú Gwóngdùngwá/ | 2. Kéuih haih gaaú Gwóngdùng-<br>wá ge. |
| 3. Kéuih haih bīngō a?<br>/gaaú Yíngmán/     | 3. Kéuih haih gaaú Yíngmán ge.          |
| 4. Kéuih haih bīngō a?<br>/hohk Gwokýuh/     | 4. Kéuih haih hohk Gwokýuh ge.          |

a. Repeat, teacher cueing with right hand column, students responding with correspond haih m̀h haih question sentence, thus:

T: Kéuih gaaú ngóh Yíngmán ge.

S: Kéuih haih m̀h haih gaaú néih Yíngmán ga?

#### IV. CONVERSATIONS FOR LISTENING

(On tape. Listen to tape with book closed.)

#### V. SAY IT IN CANTONESE:

##### A. Ask your neighbor:

1. if he can speak the Shanghai dialect.
2. who teaches him to speak Cantonese.
3. if Mrs. Wong teaches Cantonese.
4. if his friend can speak Cantonese.
5. how to say 'Good morning' in Cantonese.
6. if he can write Chinese.
7. if Mr. Chan can speak the Taishan dialect.
8. if Mr. Cheung can speak Japanese and English.

##### B. And he answers:

1. that he can't, but that he can speak Mandarin.
2. that Mr. Cheung does.
3. that she doesn't; she teaches English.
4. that he can't say even one sentence.
5. that he didn't hear you (hear clearly)--would you repeat.
6. that he can't write it, but can speak a little.
7. that he can speak Taishan dialect and also can speak Shanghai dialect.
8. Yes, he can speak both Japanese and English.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 9. if he knows what language they are speaking. | 9. they're speaking English.                      |
| 10. whether his student is American.            | 10. No, he's not an American, he's an Englishman. |

## Vocabulary Checklist for Lesson 3

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| 1. bīngō?           | QW: who?   |
| 2. chí              | m: time, occasion  |
| 3. chingchó         | adj: clear   |
| 4. daahnhaih        | cj: but  |
| 5. dī               | m: a little, some  |
| 6. dīm?             | QW: how?   |
| 7. dōu              | adv: both  |
| 8. gaau             | v: teach   |
| 9. ga/ge/g          | ss: sen. suf. for matter of fact assertion                           |
| 10. geui            | m: sentence  |
| 11. góng            | v: speak   |
| 12. Gwokýúh         | n: Mandarin spoken language  |
| 13. Gwóngdùngwá     | n: Cantonese spoken language   |
| 14. hohk            | v: study, learn  |
| 15. jē              | ss: sen. suf. only, merely; that's all                               |
| 16. jí(dou)         | v: know (something)  |
| 17. joi             | adv: again   |
| 18. Joi góng yātchi | Ph: Say it again.  |
| 19. Jùngmàhn        | n: Chinese (written) language  |
| 20. mē              | ss: sen. suf. for question indicating surprise                       |
| 21. Mhngòì néih...  | Ph: Please..., Would you please....<br>sen. pre. preceding a request |
| 22. ñgh             | nu: five   |
| 23. sàam            | nu: three  |
| 24. sé              | v: write   |
| 25. sèsíu           | Ph: a little   |
| 26. sei             | nu: four   |
| 27. Seuhnghóiwá     | n: Shanghai dialect (spoken language)                                |

28. séung                    aux v: wish to, want to, would like to, am considering, be of a mind to
29. sĭk                    v: to know someone
30. sĭk                    aux v/v: know how (to do something)
31. t̀ng                    v: hear, listen
32. T̀ih sān wá            n: Toishan dialect
33. t̀hng                    cj: and (connects nouns)
34. wá                    n: spoken language, dialect
35. Yaht b́n wá            n: Japanese (spoken) language
36. Yaht mán            n: Japanese (written) language
37. Yaht m̀hn            n: Japanese (written) language
38. yāt                    nu: one
39. yāt chi                Ph: once [one-time]
40. yauh                    adv: also (connects Verb Phrases)
41. yauh V, yauh V.    PAdv: both..., and ....
42. yih                    nu: two
43. Yĭng m̀hn            n: English language
44. Yĭng mán            n: English language

## CLASSROOM PHRASES

Learn to respond to the following classroom instructions. First look at the English equivalents as the teacher reads the Cantonese instructions. Then close your books and listen to the teacher and watch his gestures to help you understand. Check your book if you have difficulty. The teacher will say the sentences several times to help you become familiar with them. Your goal is to be able to respond to the Cantonese without needing to do mental translations into English.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Yíhgā néihdeih tái daih<br><u>1</u> yíhp.  | 1. Now look at page <u>1</u> .  |
| 2. Dáhòí néih bún syù, daih<br><u>1</u> yíhp.   | 2. Open your book to page ____.   |
| 3. Yíhgā ngóhdeih duhk daih <u>4</u><br>fo gèibún wuihwá.   | 3. Now we'll read aloud Lesson <u>4</u> ,<br>Basic Conversation.                                    |
| 4. Yíhgā ngóhdeih wánjaahp daih<br><u>3</u> fo.   | 4. Now we'll review Lesson <u>3</u> .   |
| 5. Kàhmyaht gaaudou bīndouh a?  | 5. Where did we get to [lit. teach to]<br>yesterday?  |
| 6. Seuhng chi gaaudou bīndouh a?  | 6. Where did we get to last time?   |
| 7. Kàhmyaht gaaudou daih <u>2</u><br>yíhp, daih <u>2</u> fo, daih<br><u>2</u> go, lihnjaahp, daih<br><u>2</u> geui. | 7. Yesterday we got to page <u>2</u> ,<br>Lesson <u>2</u> , Drill <u>2</u> ,<br>Sentence <u>2</u> . |
| 8. Dāk meih?  | 8. Are you ready yet?   |

## Responses:

Dāk laak.

Ready.

Meih dāk a. or Meih dāk.

Not ready yet.

## I. BASIC CONVERSATION

A. Buildup:

Léih Baak-chiu appears at the door of Làuh Gwok-jūng's office. The two had planned to have lunch together, and Mr. Léih has come to get Mr. Làuh.

Léih:

dāk meih?

ready?

Baak-chiu, dāk meih?

Baak-chiu, are you ready?

Làuh:

meih

not yet

Meih a.

Not yet.

dīmjūng or dīm

hour, o'clock

géidīm or géidīmjūng?

what time?

Géidīm a?

What time is it?

Léih:

yīngā

now

daahp yāt

five after the hour

yāt dīm daahp yāt

five after one

Yīngā ... (he looks at his watch)

It's ...five after one.

yāt dīm daahp yāt.

Làuh:

wá?

sentence suffix 'what did  
you say?'

Géidīm wá?

What time did you say?

Léih:

yāt go jih

five minutes

Yāt dīm yāt go jih.

It's one oh five.

Làuh:

jéun

accurate

jéun m̀hjéun a?

accurate/not accurate

bīu

wristwatch, watch

go bīu

a watch

néih go bīu

your watch

Néih go bīu jéun m̀hjéun ga?

Your watch accurate one? (i.e.  
Is your watch accurate?)

Léih

Chàhhdō--

faai

la

faai sèsiu la

lā = la + raised sentence  
final intonation

waahkjé

Waahkjé faai sèsiu lā.

Approximately--

fast

sentence suffix indicating  
change from previous  
condition: 'has become'.

gotten a bit fast

raised final intonation =  
a sentence suffix indi-  
cating casualness.

maybe, or

Maybe it's a little fast. or

Or a little fast.

Lāuh

fānjūng

gái

gái fānjūng

dáng

dáng gái fānjūng

dáng ngóh gái fānjūng

joi dáng ngóh gái fānjūng

tím

lā

Gám, joi dáng ngóh gái fānjūng  
tím lā.

minute(s)

several

several minutes

wait

wait a few minutes

wait for me a few minutes

again wait for me a few  
minutes

in addition, also, more

sentence suffix for  
suggestion--polite  
imperative.Well, wait for me a few minutes  
more, please.Léih

hóu

Hóu, ngóh dáng néih lā.

OK, all right, fine

OK, I'll wait for you.

Lāuh

àh hóu yisi

I'm sorry. or It's  
embarrassing. (used in  
apologizing for social  
gaffe.)

|               |             |   |
|---------------|-------------|---|
| bo            |             | sentence suffix, expressing<br>certainty. |
| Mhóu yisi bo. |             | I'm sorry.                                |
|               | <u>Léih</u> |   |
| Mhángyiu.     |             | It's all right.                           |

B. Recapitulation:

|   |             |   |
|---|-------------|---|
|   | <u>Léih</u> |   |
| Baak-chiu, dāk meih?  |             | Baak-chiu, are you ready?                             |
|   | <u>Làuh</u> |   |
| Meih a. Géidim a?   |             | Not yet. What time is it?                             |
|   | <u>Léih</u> |   |
| Yihgā ... (he looks at his<br>watch) ... yāt dim daahp yāt. |             | It's ... five after one.                              |
|   | <u>Làuh</u> |   |
| Géidim wá?  |             | What time did you say?                                |
|   | <u>Léih</u> |   |
| Yāt dim yāt go jih.   |             | It's one oh five.                                     |
|   | <u>Làuh</u> |   |
| Néih go bíu jéun m̀hjeun ga?                                |             | Is your watch accurate?<br>[Your watch accurate one?] |
|   | <u>Léih</u> |   |
| Chàmhō--waahkjé faai sèsiu lā.                              |             | Approximately--or a little fast.                      |
|   | <u>Làuh</u> |   |
| Gám, joi dáng ngóh géi<br>fānjūng tím lā.                   |             | Well, wait for me a few minutes<br>more, please.      |
|   | <u>Léih</u> |   |
| Hóu, ngóh dáng néih lā.                                     |             | OK, I'll wait for you.                                |
|   | <u>Làuh</u> |   |
| Mhóu yisi bo.   |             | I'm sorry.  |
|   | <u>Léih</u> |   |
| Mhángyiu.   |             | That's all right.                                     |

+ + + + + + + + + + + + + + +

## PRONUNCIATION PRACTICE

1. aa, (written in our text as a when it is in syllable-final position)  
as in yíngā, Máh, wá

aa as syllable final is a low back vowel [a]. It is similar to the vowel in the American word "Pa," though the American vowel is less backed than the Cantonese one. (American [a]; Cantonese [a]). Some Americans have the backed vowel in their pronunciation of the English word "balm." [balm] Since the backed mid-central vowel in Cantonese [ə̃] which we write with the letter a does not occur as a syllable final but only as the first part of a two-part final, we use a single a to write the lowback vowel aa [a] when it is final in its syllable.

Listen and repeat:

1. Máh , Máh , Máh . 馬
2. wá , wá , wá . 話
3. yíngā , yíngā , yíngā . 而家

2. aap, as in daahp

aap is a two-part final composed of the low back vowel aa [a] plus the bilabial stop consonant p [p]. As a final p is unreleased: [p̚]. aa before p is produced the same way as aa finally, as a low back vowel, relatively long in an isolated syllable [a·p̚]. The nearest American counterpart is the op in the American word "pop," but the vowel portion is more backed than the American vowel. (American [a], Cantonese [a]).

Listen and repeat:

- daahp , daahp , daahp . 踏

3. ap, as in sahp, 'lo'

ap is a two-part final composed of the backed mid-central vowel a [ə̃] plus the bilabial stop consonant p [p]. As a final p is unreleased: [p̚]. The a is relatively short in an isolated syllable: [ə̃·p̚], but it can be attenuated in sentence context under certain conditions. The nearest American counterpart to ap is the mid-central vowel [ə] in the up of general American "cup," [kəp], but the Cantonese vowel is more backed than the American one (Cantonese [ə̃], American [ə]).

Listen and repeat:

sahp , sah , sah , sah . 拾

4. ap/aap contrasts

Listen and repeat:

1. sah , sah , sah . 拾
2. daahp , daahp , daahp . 踏
3. sah daahp , sah daahp , sah daahp . 拾踏
4. daahp sah , daahp sah , daahp sah . 踏拾

5. eung practice

1. léuhng (5 times) 兩
2. séung (5 times) 想
3. Jèung (5 times) 張

6. eun, as in jéun

eun is a two-part final composed of the lower mid-central rounded vowel eu [ œ ] plus the dental nasal n. eu before n is lower and more backed than the same vowel before ng. eun = [ œ n ]; eung = [ œ ŋ ] The vowel eu before n is relatively long: [ œ :n ]. The vowel is an open vowel before the nasal final. The rounded eu has a rounding effect on a consonant preceding and following it. There is no close counterpart in English.

Listen and repeat: (Watch the teacher, copy his lip position)

- 準 準 準 1. jéun, jéun, jéun ; jéun, jéun, jéun .  
 準 唔準呀? 2. jéun m̀h jéun a? , jéun m̀h jéun a? ,  
 jéun m̀h jéun a? .

7. eun/eung contrast

1. jéun (3 times) , séung (3 times) .
2. jéun (3 times) , Jèung (3 times) .
3. jéun (3 times) , léuhng (3 times)
4. séung, Jèung, léuhng , jéun jéun jéun ;
5. jéun, jéun, jéun , séung, Jèung, léuhng .

8. eun/eui contrast

1. jéun jéun deui deui
2. jéun deui , deui jéun , jéun deui ,  
deui jéun .

9. uk, as in luhk, 'six'

uk is a two-part final composed of the high back rounded vowel u plus the velar stop consonant k. k as a final is unreleased: [ k̚ ] Before k, the tongue position for u is considerably lowered in regard to tongue height from cardinal high position to upper-mid position: [ o ]. The vowel is relatively short before k: [ o k ]. The closest American counterpart is the ook of "look," but the Cantonese vowel is lower than the American one. (Cantonese [ õk ], American [ Uk ].)

Listen and repeat:

1. luhk luhk luhk
2. luhk , luhk , luhk . 六

10. ung, as in tùhng

ung is a two-part final composed of the high back rounded vowel u plus the velar nasal consonant ng: [ ŋ ]. The tongue position for u before ng is the same as that of u before k--lowered from cardinal high back position to upper mid position: [ oŋ ]. The vowel is an open vowel before the nasal final. Lips are rounded.

Listen and repeat:

1. tùhng tùhng tùhng
2. tùhng , tùhng , tùhng . 冚

11. ung/uk contrast

1. luhk tùhng , luhk tùhng , luhk tùhng .
2. tùhng luhk , tùhng luhk , tùhng luhk .
3. luhk tùhng , tùhng luhk ,  
tùhng luhk , luhk tùhng .

12. un/ung contrast [ ũn ]/[ o ŋ ]

Compare: Listen and repeat:

1. tùhng tùhng 冚 , bun bun 半 .
2. bun tùhng , tùhng bun .
3. tùhng bun tùhng
4. bun tùhng bun

## II. NOTES

A. Culture Notes:

Greetings. When two Americans meet for the first time during the day they use some sort of greeting before ordinary talk begins. Hi, hello, good morning, good afternoon, whatever seems appropriate to the situation. In English it is a bit rude not to offer a greeting before getting down to the business at hand. But Cantonese doesn't have one to one correspondences with American greetings and uses greeting forms more sparingly than English does. A good all-purpose greeting is just to greet the addressee by name.

Ex: Mr. Chan (to Mr. Lee): Léih Sàang.

Mr. Lee: A, Chàhn Sàang.

In this connection notice the first lines of dialogue in the opening conversation.

Ex: When A comes to B's office to get him for lunch:

A: Bāk-chiu dāk meih?      Bāk-chiu, are you ready?

B: Meih a.                              Not yet.

In an equivalent English situation, A would be likely to say "Hi" or some such greeting before saying "Ready yet?"

B. Structure Notes:1. 'Dāk meih?'

Dāk means 'OK, all right' and meih, 'not yet,' Together they form a positive-negative question--'OK?, or not yet?,' i.e., "Ready yet?"

Responses to Dāk meih? are:

Dāk la. = Ready.

Meih dāk. = Not ready yet.

2. Time Expressions

1. The following time expressions are used in telling time in Cantonese:

dīm or dīmjūng = hour, o'clock

fānjūng            = minute (not used as much in Cantonese as in English)

gwāt              = quarter-hour sections of the hour (transliteration of English "quarter")

jih                 = five-minute sections of the hour (jih)

literally means "figure," here the 12 numbers on the clock dial.)

2. The above time-words combine as follows:

1. yāt dīm (jūng) = one o'clock
2. yāt dīm yāt fānjūng = one minute after one o'clock
3. yāt dīm yāt go jih = five minutes after one

(See Drill 7)

4. yāt dīm yāt go gwāt = a quarter after one

(See Drill 6)

5. yāt dīm bun = half past one

(See Drill 3)

3. daahp in time expressions

daahp, literally "tread on" is used in reference to the number on the clock face to which the minute hand points to tell time:

Ex: yāt dīm daahp yāt = five minutes after one

yāt dīm daahp yih = ten minutes after one

(See BC and Drills 4, 7)

4. gēi? 'which number?' in time expressions

gēi? in time expressions operates as an interrogative number, and occupies the position in the sentence which the reply number occupies.

Ex: 1. gēidīm a? = what time is it? [What number o'clock?]

Ńghdīm. = It's five o'clock.

2. Yīngā daahp gēi a? = What time is it? [Now treads on what number?]

Yīngā daahp sei. = It's 20 after. [Now treads 4.]

(See BC and Drills 1, 3, 4)

5. Positioning of time expressions in relation to main verbs:

1. A time expression which precedes the verb in the sentence indicates the time that the action represented by the verb took/takes/will take place. We refer to the pre-verb time expression as a 'time when' expression.

Ex: Kéuih sahph dīmjūng gaau He teaches Cantonese at

Gwóngdùngwá. 10 o'clock.

(See Drill 10)



Kéuih go m̀hjúun. His one isn't accurate.

(See Drill 8)

We defer fuller treatment of Measures to Lessons 6 and 7.

### 5. Adjectives:

Adjectives in Cantonese are descriptive words. Examples in this lesson are jéun, 'accurate,' faai, 'fast,' maahn, 'slow.'

Adjectives are classed with Verbs, since they can be preceded by the negative m̀h.

Ex: Néih go bíu jéun m̀h-  
júun ga?

Is your watch accurate?

Ngóh go bíu m̀hjúun.

My watch isn't accurate.

(See BC)

Note that whereas in English an appropriate form of the verb "be" is needed when an adjective is used in the predicate, in Cantonese adjectives are used in the predicate without any other verb.

Compare:

| Subject     |       | Predicate        |
|-------------|-------|------------------|
| My          | watch | is not accurate. |
| Ngóh go bíu |       | m̀hjúun.         |

This class of words which we call "adjectives," some other writers refer to as "stative verbs."

Adjectives will be treated more fully in Lesson 8.

### 6. Numbers:

#### 1. Simple numerals

##### a. From 1 to 10:

- |         |          |
|---------|----------|
| 1. yāt  | 6. luhk  |
| 2. yih  | 7. chāt  |
| 3. sâam | 8. baat  |
| 4. sei  | 9. gáu   |
| 5. ngh  | 10. sahp |

##### b. From 11 to 19 Cantonese numbers use an adding formula:

ten-one, ten-two, etc:

- |              |               |
|--------------|---------------|
| 11. sahp yāt | 13. sahp sâam |
| 12. sahp yih | 14. sahp sei  |

15. sahpn̄gh      18. sahpb̄aat  
 16. sahpluhk    19. sahpgáú  
 17. sahpchāt

2. yih and léuhng = "2"

yih and léuhng both represent "2."

yih is used in counting off: yāt, yih, sàam, 'one, two, three,' and in compound numbers: sahpyih, '12,' yihshahp, '20,' yihshahpyih, '22,' etc.

léuhng represents "2" usually, but not in every case, before Measures.

Ex: léung dīm = 2:00

léuhng dīm yāt go jih = 2:05

léuhng dīm léuhng go jih = 2:10

(See Drills 1, 2, 5, 7)

We recommend that students not try to generalize at first about when to use léuhng and when to use yih, but simply learn them as vocabulary in the places where they occur.

7. Sentence suffix la

la is a sentence suffix indicating that the condition described in the sentence to which it is attached is changed from the way it used to be.

Ex: Ngóh go bīu faai      My watch has gotter a little  
       sèsíu la.                      fast.

More on sentence suffix la in Lesson 5.

8. Raised final intonation.

In the Basic Conversation of this lesson, raised final intonation transforms sentence suffix la into lā in the following:

Waahkjé faai sèsíu lā.      Maybe (it's) a little fast.

Raised final intonation here indicates uncertainty, doubt.

9. Sentence suffix lā

lā attaches to imperative sentences, with the effect of making the imperative a gentle one, definitely a suggestion politely intended rather than a command. (By imperative we



1. Listen and repeat: number drill: clock hours. Teacher uses pointer and blackboard clock. The students repeat after the teacher in the pauses provided.

- |       |                                 |                                  |                                      |             |        |
|-------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------|--------|
| 1.    | yāt (pause)                     | yāt dīm. (pause)                 | yāt dīmjūng. (pause)                 | 1,          | 1:00.  |
| + 2.  | yih (pause)                     | <u>léuhng</u> dīm<br>(pause)     | léuhng dīmjūng. (pause)              | 2,          | 2:00.  |
| 3.    | sàam (pause)                    | sàam dīm. (pause)                | sàam dīmjūng. (pause)                | 3,          | 3:00.  |
| 4.    | sei (pause)                     | sei dīm. (pause)                 | sei dīmjūng. (pause)                 | 4,          | 4:00.  |
| 5.    | ng̃h (pause)                    | ng̃h dīm. (pause)                | ng̃h dīmjūng. (pause)                | 5,          | 5:00.  |
| 6.    | luhk (pause)                    | luhk dīm. (pause)                | luhk dīmjūng. (pause)                | 6,          | 6:00.  |
| 7.    | chāt (pause)                    | chāt dīm. (pause)                | chāt dīmjūng. (pause)                | 7,          | 7:00.  |
| 8.    | baat (pause)                    | baat dīm. (pause)                | baat dīmjūng. (pause)                | 8,          | 8:00.  |
| 9.    | gáu (pause)                     | gáu dīm. (pause)                 | gáu dīmjūng. (pause)                 | 9,          | 9:00.  |
| 10.   | sahp (pause)                    | sahp dīm. (pause)                | sahp dīmjūng. (pause)                | 10,         | 10:00. |
| + 11. | <u>sahpyāt</u><br>(pause)       | sahpyāt dīm.<br>(pause)          | sahpyāt dīmjūng.<br>(pause)          | <u>11</u> , | 11:00. |
| + 12. | <u>sahpyih</u><br>(pause)       | sahpyih dīm.<br>(pause)          | sahpyih dīmjūng.<br>(pause)          | <u>12</u> , | 12:00. |
| 13.   | gēi (pause)<br>Which<br>number? | gēidīm? (pause)<br>What o'clock? | gēidīmjūng? (pause)<br>What o'clock? |             |        |

a. Random order. Teacher silent, points to different numbers on clock dial in random order, students call out time. Individual or group response, or both.

Comment: gēi? 'which?' is an interrogative pronoun of number.

2. Expansion Drill: Props: A big clock drawn on blackboard. Teacher silent, gives visual cues by pointing to numbers on clock.

Ex: T: (points to 7 on the clock dial)

S: Yīngā chāt dīm.                      It's seven o'clock. [Now seven o'clock.]

- |        |                      |
|--------|----------------------|
| 1. (3) | 1. Yīngā sàam dīm.   |
| 2. (6) | 2. Yīngā luhk dīm.   |
| 3. (9) | 3. Yīngā gáu dīm.    |
| 4. (8) | 4. Yīngā baat dīm.   |
| 5. (2) | 5. Yīngā léuhng dīm. |

a. Continue, teacher pointing to numbers on clock to cue students. Teacher signals for choral or individual response.

3. Expansion Drill: Props: A big clock drawn on blackboard. Teacher points to number and says cue word.

Ex: T: /yāt/

T: /one/

S: Yīngā daahp yat.

S: It's five after.

- |                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| 1. /sàam/                          | 1. Yīngā daahp sàam.                   |
| 2. /baat/                          | 2. Yīngā daahp baat.                   |
| 3. /gáu/                           | 3. Yīngā daahp gáu.                    |
| 4. /sei/                           | 4. Yīngā daahp sei.                    |
| 5. /chāt/                          | 5. Yīngā daahp chāt.                   |
| 6. /yih/                           | 6. Yīngā daahp yih.                    |
| 7. /sahpyat/                       | 7. Yīngā daahp sahpyāt.                |
| + 8. / <u>bun</u> /<br><u>half</u> | 8. Yīngā daahp bun.<br>It's half past. |
| 9. /ngh/                           | 9. Yīngā daahp ngh.                    |

4. Conversation Drill: Props: A big clock drawn on blackboard. Teacher provides visual cues only, by pointing to number on clock.

Ex: T: 1

S<sub>1</sub>: Yīngā daahp géi a?

T: What time is it?

S<sub>2</sub>: Yīngā daahp yāt.

S: It's five after.

- |        |   |
|--------|---|
| 1. 5   | 1. A. Yīngā daahp géi a?<br>B. Yīngā daahp ngh.   |
| 2. 7   | 2. A. Yīngā daahp géi a?<br>B. Yīngā daahp chāt.  |
| 3. 11  | 3. A. Yīngā daahp géi a?<br>B. Yīngā daahp sahpyāt.   |
| 4. 8   | 4. A. Yīngā daahp géi a?<br>B. Yīngā daahp baat.  |
| 5. 6   | 5. A. Yīngā daahp géi a?<br>B. Yīngā <u>daahp bun</u> .<br>( <u>daahp bun = half past</u> ) |
| + 6. 2 | 6. A. Yīngā daahp géi a?<br>B. Yīngā daahp yih.   |

5. Expansion Drill: Props: Blackboard clock. Teacher points first to hour number then to the half-hour number, as he voices the cue sentence.

Ex: T: Yíngā sàam dím bun. T: It's half past three.  
[Now three o'clock half.]

+ S: Yíngā ngāamngāam sàam dím bun. S: It's exactly half past three.  
(ng)āam(ng)āam =  
exactly, just.

- |                          |                                     |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Yíngā léuhng dím bun. | 1. Yíngā ngāamngāam léuhng dím bun. |
| 2. Yíngā ngh dím bun.    | 2. Yíngā ngāamngāam ngh dím bun.    |
| 3. Yíngā luhk dím bun.   | 3. Yíngā ngāamngāam luhk dím bun.   |
| 4. Yíngā baat dím bun.   | 4. Yíngā ngāamngāam baat dím bun.   |
| 5. Yíngā sah p dím bun.  | 5. Yíngā ngāamngāam sah p dím bun.  |

6. Expansion Drill: Props: Blackboard clock. Teacher says cue then points to the quarter hour on the clock to signal students' response.

Ex: T: Sah p dím. T: Ten o'clock  
S: Yíngā sah p dím S: It's a quarter after ten.  
+ yāt go gwāt. [Now ten o'clock one quarter.]

- |               |                                  |
|---------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. yāt dím    | 1. Yíngā yāt dím yāt go gwāt.    |
| 2. sei dím    | 2. Yíngā sei dím yāt go gwāt.    |
| 3. chāt dím   | 3. Yíngā chāt dím yāt go gwāt.   |
| 4. ngh dím    | 4. Yíngā ngh dím yāt go gwāt.    |
| 5. sàam dím   | 5. Yíngā sàam dím yāt go gwāt.   |
| 6. léuhng dím | 6. Yíngā léuhng dím yāt go gwāt. |

Comment: gwāt 'quarter', a transliteration from English.  
Grammatically gwāt is a Noun, having the Measure go.  
It occurs in combination with numbers 1 and 3 to form time phrases marking the 2 quarter-hours:

sàam dím yāt go gwāt - Three o'clock one quarter  
= 3:15

sàam dím sàam go gwāt - Three o'clock three quarters  
= 3:45

## 7. Alteration Drill:

Ex: T: Yíngā sàam dím  
daahp yāt.

It's five after three.  
or It's three-oh-five.  
[three touch one]

S: Yíngā sàam dím  
yāt go jìh.

It's five after three.  
or It's three-oh-five.  
[Now three o'clock one figure.]

(TO STUDENT: Take out paper & pencil and write a column of numbers from 1 to 7. As you respond orally, write down the times on paper (e.g. 3:05.) After the exercise, the teacher will give responses in English, and you correct your paper.)

- |                               |                                  |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Yíngā sàam dím daahp yìh.  | 1. Yíngā sàam dím léuhng go jìh. |
| 2. Yíngā sàam dím daahp séi.  | 2. Yíngā sàam dím séi go jìh.    |
| 3. Yíngā sàam dím daahp chāt. | 3. Yíngā sàam dím chāt go jìh.   |
| 4. Yíngā sàam dím daahp sàam. | 4. Yíngā sàam dím sàam go jìh.   |
| 5. Yíngā sàam dím daahp sahp. | 5. Yíngā sàam dím sahp go jìh.   |

Comment: a. jìh, 'figure'. Grammatically jìh is a Noun, having the Measure go. It occurs in combination with the numbers 1 through 11 to form a series of time phrases marking the five-minute subdivisions of the hour.

yāt go jìh = 5 after

léuhng go jìh = 10 after, etc.

b. The go jìh part of the above phrases may be omitted, with the meaning unchanged:

sàam dím sàam go jìh - sàam dím sàam = 3:15

## 8. Expansion Drill:

Ex: T: Léih Táai go bīu  
faai sèsiu.  
/maahn sèsiu/

Mrs. Lee's watch is a little  
fast. /slow a little/

B: Léih Táai go bīu faai  
sèsiu; ngòh go  
maahn sèsiu.

Mrs. Lee's watch is a little  
fast, mine's a little slow.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Léih Táai go bīu maahn sèsiu.<br>/faai sèsiu/         | 1. Léih Táai go bīu maahn<br>sèsiu, ngòh go faai sèsiu.              |
| 2. Léih Táai go bīu faai yātgo-<br>jìh. /maahn yātgojìh/ | 2. Léih Táai go bīu faai yātgo-<br>jìh, ngòh go maahn yātgo-<br>jìh. |

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 3. Léih Táai go bíu maahn<br>yāt fānjūng /faai yāt fān-<br>jūng/<br>Mrs. Lee's watch is one<br>minute slow. | 3. Léih Táai go bíu maahn yāt<br>fānjūng, ngòh go faai yāt<br>fānjūng.    |
| 4. Chàhn Táai go bíu faai sèsiu.<br>/maahn sèsiu/   | 4. Chàhn Táai go bíu faai sèsiu,<br>ngòh go maahn sèsiu.                  |
| 5. Chàhn Táai go bíu maahn léuhng-<br>gojih. /faai yāt go gwāt/   | 5. Chàhn Táai go bíu maahn<br>léuhng go jih, ngòh go<br>faai yāt go gwāt. |

## 9. Response Drill:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| Ex: T: Kéuihdeih haih m̀h̄haih<br>Yínggwokyàhn a?<br>/Méihgwokyàhn/                                  | Are they English?<br>/Americans/   |
| S: Ngòh m̀h̄ji. Waahkjé<br>haih Yínggwokyàhn,<br>waahkjé haih<br>Méihgwokyàhn.                       | I don't know - They may be<br>English, may be Americans.                       |
| 1. Kéuih haih m̀h̄haih Gwóng-<br>dùngyàhn a? /Seuhng̀hóiyàhn/  | 1. Ngòh m̀h̄ji, waahkjé haih<br>Gwóngdùngyàhn, waahkjé<br>haih Seuhng̀hóiyàhn. |
| 2. Kéuih haih m̀h̄haih Méihgwok-<br>yàhn a? /Yínggwokyàhn/   | 2. Ngòh m̀h̄ji, waahkjé haih<br>Méihgwokyàhn, waahkjé<br>haih Yínggwokyàhn.    |
| 3. Kéuih haih m̀h̄haih Seuhng̀hóiyàhn a?<br>/Gwóngdùngyàhn/  | 3. Ngòh m̀h̄ji, waahkjé haih<br>Seuhng̀hóiyàhn; waahkjé<br>haih Gwóngdùngyàhn. |
| 4. Kéuih haih m̀h̄haih Jùnggwok-<br>yàhn a? /Yahtbúnyàhn/  | 4. Ngòh m̀h̄ji, waahkjé haih<br>Jùnggwokyàhn; waahkjé<br>haih Yahtbúnyàhn.     |
| a. Repeat, Teacher giving the two fillers only, students<br>taking both parts of conversation, thus: |  |
| T: /Yínggwokyàhn/ Méihgwokyàhn/  |  |
| S1: Kéuih haih m̀h̄haih Yínggwokyàhn a?  |  |
| S2: Waahkjé haih Yínggwokyàhn, waahkjé haih Méihgwokyàhn.  |  |

## 10. Combining Drill:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| Ex: T: Yíngā sahp dím bun.<br>Keuihdeih hohk<br>Gwóngdùngwá. | T: It's ten thirty.<br>They study Cantonese. |
|--|--|

S: Kéuihdeih sahp dím S: They study Cantonese at 10:30.  
 bun hohk Gwóngdùng-  
 wá.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. <u>Yíngā gáu dímjūng.</u><br>Kéuih gaau bīngō a?                              | 1. <u>Kéuih gáu dímjūng</u> gaau<br>bīngō a?                                  |
| 2. <u>Yíngā léuhng dím yātggōwāt.</u><br>Bīngō hohk Yíngmāhn a?                  | 2. <u>Bīngō léuhng dím yātggōwāt</u><br>hohk Yíngmāhn a?                      |
| 3. <u>Yíngā sàam dím sàamgōwāt.</u><br>Léih Sàang hohk mēyéh a?                  | 3. <u>Léih Sàang sàam dím sàamgō-</u><br>gōwāt hohk mēyéh a?                  |
| 4. <u>Yíngā sahpýāt dím bun.</u><br>Ngóhdeih hohk sé Jūngmāhn.                   | 4. <u>Ngóhdeih sahpýāt dím bun</u><br>hohk sé Jūngmāhn.                       |
| 5. <u>Yíngā sei dím bun.</u><br>Hòh Sīujé gaau Méihgwokyáhn<br>Gwokyúh.          | 5. <u>Hòh Sīujé sei dím bun</u> gaau<br>Méihgwokyáhn Gwokyúh.                 |
| 6. <u>Yíngā baat dím sàamgōwāt.</u><br>Jéung Táai gaau néih góng<br>Gwóngdùngwá. | 6. <u>Jéung Táai baat dím sàamgō-</u><br>gōwāt gaau néih góng<br>Gwóngdùngwá. |

Comment: A time phrase which indicates the time that the action represented by the verb takes place, precedes the verb in the sentence.

11. Response Drill: Make a wá? question out of each statement, substituting the appropriate question word for the expression underlined in the cue sentence.

Ex: T: Yíngā sahp dím bun. T: It is now 10:30.

S: Yíngā géidím wá? S: What time did you say it was now?

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. <u>Kéuih sing Làuh.</u>   | 1. <u>Kéuih sing</u> mēyéh wá?               |
| 2. <u>Kéuih haih ngóh</u> hohksàang.                                   | 2. <u>Bīngō haih néih</u> hohksàang<br>wá?   |
| 3. <u>Hòh Sīujé</u> gaau ngóh Seuhng-<br>hóiwá.                        | 3. <u>Bīngō gaau néih</u> Seuhnghóiwá<br>wá? |
| 4. <u>Chàhn Táai</u> haih kéuih sīnsàang.<br>Mrs. Chan is her teacher. | 4. <u>Bīngō haih kéuih</u> sīnsàang<br>wá?   |
| 5. <u>Léih Sàang</u> haih Méihgwokyáhn.                                | 5. <u>Bīngō haih</u> Méihgwokyáhn wá?        |

12. Substitution Drill: Repeat the first sentence, then substitute as directed.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. <u>Mhngòi néih</u> dáng ngóh géi<br>fánjūng. | 1. <u>Mhngòi néih</u> dáng ngóh géi<br>fánjūng. |
|---|---|

- |                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| 2. /gèi go jih/     | 2. M̀ngòì néih dáng ngóh gèi go jih.     |
| 3. /yāt go jih/     | 3. M̀ngòì néih dáng ngóh yāt go jih.     |
| 4. /léuhng fānjūng/ | 4. M̀ngòì néih dáng ngóh léuhng fānjūng. |
| 5. /léuhng go jih/  | 5. M̀ngòì néih dáng ngóh léuhng go jih.  |
- 

## IV. CONVERSATIONS FOR LISTENING

(On tape. Listen to tape with book closed.)

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## V. SAY IT IN CANTONESE.

## A. Ask your neighbor:

1. if his watch is accurate.
2. what time Mr. Chan teaches English.
3. if Mr. Wong teaches English at 2:15.
4. how to say 'five after three' in Cantonese.
5. to wait for you 10 more minutes.
6. if he's ready.
7. if he's ready.
8. what time he said it was.
9. if Mr. and Mrs. Chan are from Shanghai.
10. what time his watch has, adding that your own might not be accurate.

## B. And he replies:

1. that it is a little slow.
  2. that he is sorry but he doesn't know.
  3. no, he teaches English at 2:45.
  4. telling you two ways to say it.
  5. OK, he'll wait.
  6. that he is.
  7. that he's not--and asks you to wait a few minutes.
  8. 10:30.
  9. that Mr. Chan is from Shanghai but Mrs. Chan is from Taishan.
  10. that it's exactly 11:02.
-

## Vocabulary Checklist for Lesson 4

|                   |        |   |
|-------------------|--------|---|
| 1. āamāam         | adv:   | exactly   |
| 2. baat           | nu:    | eight   |
| 3. bīu            | n:     | watch   |
| 4. bo             | ss:    | sen. suf. for certainty                                       |
| 5. bun            | nu:    | half  |
| 6. chāmhdō        | Ph:    | approximately   |
| 7. chāt           | nu:    | seven   |
| 8. daahp          | v:     | tread on  |
| 9. daahp bun      | TW:    | half past   |
| 10. daahp géi?    | TW:    | how many five minutes past the hour?                          |
| 11. Dāk meih?     | Ph:    | Ready?  |
| 12. dāng          | v:     | wait (for)  |
| 13. dīm(jūng)     | m:     | o'clock   |
| 14. faai          | adj:   | fast  |
| 15. fānjūng       | m:     | minute(s)   |
| 16. gáu           | nu:    | nine  |
| 17. géi           | nu:    | several   |
| 18. géi?          | QW:    | which number?   |
| 19. géidīm(jūng)? | Ph:    | What o'clock? What time?                                      |
| 20. go            | m:     | M. for nouns  |
| 21. gwāt          | (bf)n: | quarter (hour)  |
| 22. Hóu           | adj:   | OK. All right. (response used in agreeing with someone.)      |
| 23. jéun          | adj:   | accurate, right   |
| 24. jih           | n:     | written figure; word  |
| 25. lā            | ss:    | sen. suf. <u>la</u> for change + raised intonation for doubt. |
| 26. lā            | ss:    | sen. suf. for polite suggestion                               |
| 27. la            | ss:    | sen. suf. indicating change from previous condition.          |
| 28. léuhng        | nu:    | two   |
| 29. luhk          | nu:    | six   |
| 30. maahn         | adj:   | slow  |
| 31. Meih          | adv:   | Not yet.  |

32. Mhóu yisi      Ph: I'm sorry; It's embarrassing.  
33. ngāamngāam    adv: exactly (see āamāam)  
34. sām go gwāt    Ph: three quarters after the hour  
35. sah̄p            nu: ten  
36. sah̄pyāt        nu: eleven  
37. sah̄pyih        nu: twelve  
38. tīm            ss: in addition, also, more  
39. wá             ss: interrogative sen. suf. calling for repeat of  
                                 preceding sentence. i.e., \_\_\_\_ did you say?'  
40. waahkjé        cj: maybe; or  
41. yāt go gwāt    Ph: a quarter after the hour  
42. yāt go jih      Ph: five minutes  
43. yīngā          TW: now