

## 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 jǐdou bǐng, bǐng jauh góng.                 | 1. I'll point to someone, and that person should speak.                    |
| 2. Yǐhgā ngóh duhk, néihdeih sǐn tǝng.              | 2. Now I'll read aloud and you (plu.) first listen.                        |
| 3. Yǐhgā néihdeih mǎhóu tái syù, gǎnjyuh ngóh duhk. | 3. Now don't look at your books, and recite after me.                      |
| 4. Yǐhgā néihdeih gǎnjyuh lai-geui gám jouh.        | 4. Do (the problems) according to the pattern set in the example sentence. |
| 5. Yǐhgā ngóhdeih tái daih yāt go lihnjaahp.        | 5. Now we'll look at the first exercise.                                   |
| 6. Yǐhgā ngóhdeih tái daih yāt geui.                | 6. Now we'll look at the first sentence.                                   |
| 7. Yáuh móuh mahntǎih?                              | 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. | 8. Shake the head.                                  |
| 9. Ngahp tái. | 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?
jí or jidou	know
jí m̀hji a?	know/not know?
Néih jí m̀hji kéuihdeih	Do you know what language
góng mēyéh wá a?	they are speaking?
Gwokýúh	Mandarin
góng Gwokýúh	speak Mandarin
Haih m̀hhaiah góng Gwokýúh a?	Are they speaking Mandarin?

Chàhn Sàang

M̀hhaiah.	(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 Sàang

sèsiu	a little, somewhat
-------	--------------------

jē

sentence suf., indicating  
'merely', 'only', 'that's  
all'

Sík sèsiu jē.

I know a little, that's all.

Wòhng Siujé

tùhng

and

Seuhnghóiwá tùhng Gwokýúh

Shanghai dialect and  
Mandarin

dōu

both

kéuih dōu sík góng

he speaks both

Seuhnghóiwá tùhng Gwokýúh

he speaks both Shanghai  
dialect and Mandarin.

kéuih dōu sík góng

sen. suf. for matter of  
fact assertion.

ga

Seuhnghóiwá tùhng Gwokýúh kéuih  
dōu sík góng ga.

He speaks both Shanghai dialect  
and Mandarin.

Jèung SiujéYíngmán or Yíngmàhn

English language

Gám, néih sík m̀hsík Yíngmán a?

Well, do you know English?

Chàhn Sàang

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  
sé.

I can speak a little, but I  
can't write.

Jèung Siujé

hohk

study, learn

séung

wish to, want to, would  
like to

séung hohk

would like to learn

séung hohk Yíngmán

would like to learn English  
a little, some

dī

would like to learn a  
little English

séung hohk dī Yíngmán

Ngòh séung hohk 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 Sàang

One two three four five.

One two three four five.

Jèung Siujé

chingchó

clear

mhchingchó

not clear

Ngòh tèng mhchingchó.

I didn't hear clearly.

yāt chí

one time, once

góng yāt chí

say (it) one time

joi

again

joi góng yāt chí

say (it) once again

mhgòl néih

Would you please ...

Mhgòl néih joi góng yāt chí.

Would you please say it once again?

B. Recapitulation:

Wòhng Siujé:

Néih jì mǎjì kéuihdeih góng mēyéh

What language are they speaking?

wá a? Haih mǎhaih góng Gwokýuh a?

Are they speaking Mandarin?

Chàhn Sàang:

Mǎhaih. Kéuihdeih góng Seuhnghóih-wá.

(They) are not. They're speaking the Shanghai dialect.

Jèung Siujé:

Néih sǐk góng Seuhnghóihwá mē?

You can speak the Shanghai dialect?

Chàhn Sàang:

Sǐk sèsiu jē.

I know a little, that's all.

Wòhng Siujé:

Seuhnghéiwá tùhng Gwokýuh  
kéuih dōu sīk góng ga.

He speaks both Shanghai dialect  
and Mandarin.

Jèung Siujé:

Gám, néih sīk àhsīk Yíngmán a?

Well, do you know English?

Chàhn Sàang:

Sīk góng sèsiu, daahnhaiah àhsīk  
sé.

I can speak a little, but I  
can't write.

Jèung Siujé:

Ngóh séung hohk dī Yíngmán--  
Yāt yih sàam sei ngh, Yíngmán  
dīm góng a?

I'd like to learn a little  
English--How do you say  
'one two three four five'  
in English?

Chàhn Sàang:

One two three four five.

One two three four five.

Jèung Siujé:

Ngóh tēng àhchíngchó. Àngòl  
néih joi góng yāt chí.

I didn't hear clearly. Would  
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 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. eu practice: (Remember that the -i here represents the lip-rounded yu sound.)

1. kéuih kéuih kéuih
2. deuih<sup>h</sup>jyuh deui deui

5. eu/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, Jùnggwok

-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. Jùnggwok 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>𨳊</sup> góng <sup>𨳊</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 m̀hsík góng Gwokýúh. He can't speak Mandarin.  
 Kéuih sík m̀hsík 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 góng mēyéh      What language are they  
wá a?      speaking?  
(CHQ): Haih mhhaih góng      Are they speaking Mandarin?  
Gwokýúh a?  
(Neg): Mhhaih góng Gwokýúh--      (They're) not speaking  
Mandarin--  
(Aff): Kéuihdeih góng Seuhng-      They're speaking Shanghai  
hóiwá.      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 Shang-  
hai 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 tùhng Gwokýúh      Shanghai dialect and Manda-  
Kéuih dōu sīk góng ga.      rin, he can speak both,  
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 Yíng-mán ge.      He is someone who teaches English.

(See Drill 18)

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

3. Seuhnghóiwá tùhng Gwokýuh kéuih dōu sīk góng ga.      Shanghai dialect and Mandarin, he can speak both, 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. Yíngmán        | dím góng?                  |
| 6. Yāt yih sàam   | Yíngmán díng góng a?       |
| 7. Seuhnghóiwá    |                            |
| tùhng Gwokýuh     | kéuih dōu sīk góng ga.     |
| 8. Néih jǐ mǎh jǐ | 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

the sentence is that which governs the verb. But in Cantonese the subject doesn't govern the verb--there is no subject-verb concord (He speaks, They speak, It is spoken), and the ground rules are different. In Cantonese the subject comes first in a sentence, and is what is being talked about; the predicate follows, and is what is said about the subject. The subject is thus the topic of the sentence, and the predicate is the comment. In Seuhnghóiwá tùhng Gwokýúh kéuih dōu sīk góng ga, the subject, or topic,--what is being talked about--is Seuhnghóiwá tùhng Gwokýúh "Shanghai dialect and Mandarin," the predicate or comment,--what is said about the topic--is "kéuih dōu sīk góng ga," "he knows how to speak both."

In Sentence No. 5 above, Yíngmán dīm góng a? the topic is Yíngmán, "English," and the comment dīm góng a? "how say?" Extended, in Sentence No. 6, to "Yāt yih sàam Yíngmán dīm góng a?" the subject, or topic, is Yāt yih sàam, the predicate, or comment, is Yíngmán dīm góng a?

The relationship of Subject and Predicate in Cantonese is looser than that of Subject and Predicate in English. In English Subject and Predicate are tied together by the verb of the predicate being governed by the status of the Subject. In Cantonese Subject and Predicate are bound together by simple juxtaposition.

#### 7. Types of Predicates

- a. Verbal Predicate. The most common predicate is the verbal predicate, consisting of a verb phrase (VP). A Verb Phrase consists of a verb alone, a verb and preceding modifier(s), or a verb and its following object(s), or a combination of these.

Ex: Subject    Predicate

(modifier) Verb (Object)

|       |    |               |                         |
|-------|----|---------------|-------------------------|
| Ngóh  |    | jídou.        | I know.                 |
| Ngóh  | mh | jí.           | I don't know.           |
| Kéuih |    | góng Gwokýúh. | He's speaking Mandarin. |

- b. Nominal Predicate. Another type of predicate is the nominal predicate, consisting of a nominal expression. Examples are:

SubjectPredicate

## Nominal Expression

Sfusing

Hòh.

My name (is) Ho.

Siuje

gwaising a?

Miss your name?

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

Subject-Predicate sentence.

Ex: SubjectPredicate

Ngòh m̃hji

kéuihdeih góng  
m̃yéh wá?I don't know what  
language they are  
speaking.

Yāt yih sàam

Yingmán dīm góng a?

How do you say, one  
two three in  
English?

Yāt yih sàam

kéuih dōu m̃hsīk  
góng.He can't even say one  
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 sīk m̃hsīk Yingmán a?

1A. Do you know English?

B. Ngòh sīk góng, m̃hsīk sé.

B. I can speak (it), can't  
write (it).

2. M̃hgoi 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: Sīk 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.

Seuhnghóiwá tùhng Gwokýuh 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 Gwokýuh.

He also can speak Mandarin.

3. Seuhnghóiwá tùhng Gwokýuh 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 m̀hsīk 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 Seuhnghóiwá mē?!

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 Gwóngdùngwá. S: He's speaking Cantonese.

1. Kéuih góng mēyéh wá a?  
/Seuhnghóiwá/

1. Kéuih góng Seuhnghóiwá.

2. Kéuih góng mēyéh wá a?

2. Kéuih góng Gwokýúh.

3. Kéuih góng mēyéh wá a?  
Yíngmahn/

3. Kéuih góng Yíngmahn.

+ 4. Kéuih góng mēyéh wá a?  
/Yahtbúnwá/  
(Japanese spoken language)

4. Kéuih góng Yahtbúnwá.  
He's speaking Japanese.

5. Kéuih góng mēyéh wá a?  
/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 sĭk góng Gwóngdùngwá.  
/Seuhnghóiwá/ T: They can speak Cantonese.  
/Shanghai dialect/

S: Kéuihdeih sĭk góng Seuhnghóiwá. S: They can speak Shanghai dialect.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Kéuih sĭk góng Yíngmahn.<br>/Gwóngdùngwá/       | 1. Kéuih sĭk góng Gwóngdùngwá.         |
| 2. Wòhng Sàang sĭk góng<br>Gwóngdùngwá.            | 2. Wòhng Sàang sĭk góng<br>Gwokýuh.    |
| 3. Hòh Táai sĭk góng Gwokýuh<br>/Seuhnghóiwá/      | 3. Hòh Táai sĭk góng Seuhng-<br>hóiwá. |
| 4. Hòh Sĭnsàang sĭk góng<br>Seuhnghóiwá. /Yíngmán/ | 4. Hòh Sĭnsàang sĭk góng<br>Yíngmán.   |
| 5. Chàhn Siujé sĭk góng Yíngmán.<br>/Yahtbúnwá/    | 5. Chàhn Siujé sĭk góng<br>Yahtbúnwá.  |

a. Repeat, omitting góng:

|   |  |
|---|--|
| T: Kéuihdeih sĭk Gwóng-<br>dùngwá. /Seuhng-<br>hóiwá/ | They know Cantonese.<br>/Shanghai dialect/ |
| S: Kéuihdeih sĭk<br>Seuhnghóiwá.                      | They know Shanghai dialect.                |

b. Repeat, adding mē:

|   |                        |
|---|------------------------|
| T: Kéuihdeih sĭk góng<br>Gwóngdùngwá.     | They know Cantonese.   |
| S: Kéuihdeih sĭk góng<br>Gwóngdùngwá mē!? | They know Cantonese?!? |

## 3. Transformation Drill

Ex: T: Méihgwokyáhn m̃hsĭk góng Gwóngdùngwá. Americans can't speak Cantonese.

S: Méihgwokyáhn sĭk m̃hsĭk góng Gwóng-  
dùngwá a? Can Americans speak Cantonese?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. Kéuih m̃hsĭk góng Yíngmán.           | 1. Kéuih sĭk m̃hsĭk góng Yíng-<br>mán a?       |
| 2. Hòh Siujé sĭk góng Seuhng-<br>hóiwá. | 2. Hòh Siujé sĭk m̃hsĭk góng<br>Seuhnghóiwá a? |

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 3. Kéuihdeih sīk góng Gwokýúh.   | 3. Kéuihdeih sīk m̃hsīk góng Gwokýúh a?  |
| + 4. Méihgwokyàhn m̃hsīk sé <u>Jùngmàhn</u> .<br>Americans can't write Chinese.        | 4. Méihgwokyàhn sīk m̃hsīk 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 m̃hsīk gaau Yahtbúnwá a?  |

## 4. Response Drill

Ex: T: Kéuih hohk Gwóng-dùngwá.  
/Seuhnghóiwá/

T: He studies Cantonese.  
/Shanghai dialect/

S: Gám, kéuih hohk m̃hhohk Seuhnghóiwá a?

S: Well, then, does he study Shanghai dialect?

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Kéuih sīk Yíngmán. /Jùngmàhn/         | 1. Gám, kéuih sīk m̃hsīk Jùngmán a?          |
| 2. Kéuih gaau Gwóngdùngwá. /Gwokýúh/     | 2. Gám, kéuih gaau m̃hgaau Gwok-yuh a?       |
| 3. Kéuih sīk góng Gwokýúh. /Seuhnghóiwá/ | 3. Gám, kéuih sīk m̃hsīk góng Seuhnghóiwá a? |
| 4. Kéuih sīk sé Jùngmàhn. /Yíngmán/      | 4. Gám, kéuih sīk m̃hsīk sé Yíngmàhn a?      |
| 5. Kéuih sīk gaau Yíngmán. /Gwóngdùngwá/ | 5. Gám, kéuih sīk m̃hsīk 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 counter-part 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?

S: Is Mr. Wong studying Cantonese?

1. Léih Táai gaau Gwokýuh.

1. Léih Táai haih m̀hahh gaau  
Gwokýuh a?

2. Hòh Sàang góng Yíngmán.

2. Hòh Sàang haih m̀hahh góng  
Yíngmán a?

3. Chàhn Siujé sé Jùngmàhn.

3. Chàhn Siujé haih m̀hahh sé  
Jùngmàhn a?

4. Jèung Sàang sīk góng  
Yahtbúnwá.

4. Jèung Sàang haih m̀hahh sīk  
góng Yahtbúnwá a?

5. Làuh Táai sīk gaau Gwóng-  
dùngwá.

5. Làuh Táai haih m̀hahh sīk  
gaau Gwóngdùngwá a?

#### 6. Question and Answer Drill

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

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

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

Is Mr. Wong writing Japanese?

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

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

1. Jèung Táai góng Gwokýuh.  
/Seuhng hóiwá/

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 Gwokýuh.

2. Wòhng Táai gaau Gwóngdùngwá.  
/Yíngmàhn/

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. Léih Sàang hohk Yíngmàhn.  
/Yahtbúnwá/

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 m̃hsĭk góng the Shanghai dialect.  
Seuhnghóiwá.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Ngóh sĭk góng Gwóngdùngwá.<br>/Seuhnghóiwá/                                     | 1. Ngóh sĭk góng Gwóngdùngwá,<br>daahnhaih m̃hsĭk góng<br>Seuhnghóiwá.   |
| 2. Kéuih sĭk góng Yíngmán.<br>/Gwokýúh/  | 2. Kéuih sĭk góng Yíngmán,<br>daahnhaih m̃hsĭk góng<br>Gwokýúh.          |
| + 3. Kéuihdeih sĭk góng Tòihśānwá.<br>They can speak Toishan<br>dialect. /Yíngmán/ | 3. Kéuihdeih sĭk góng Tòihśān-<br>wá, daahnhaih m̃hsĭk góng<br>Yíngmán.  |
| 4. Hòh Táai sĭk góng Gwokýúh.<br>/Gwóngdùngwá/                                     | 4. Hòh Táai sĭk góng Gwokýúh,<br>daahnhaih m̃hsĭk góng<br>Gwóngdùngwá.   |
| 5. Chàhn Táai sĭk góng Yíngmán.<br>/Yahtbúnwá/                                     | 5. Chàhn Táai sĭk góng Yíng-<br>mán, daahnhaih m̃hsĭk góng<br>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.<br>/Seuhnghóiwá/     | 1. Ngóh sĭk góng Gwóngdùngwá'<br>dōu sĭk góng Seuhnghóiwá.     |
| 2. Kéuih sĭk Gwokýúh. /Yíngmán/                    | 2. Kéuih sĭk góng Gwokýúh;<br>dōu sĭk góng Yíngmán.            |
| 3. Léih Sàang sĭk góng Seuhng-<br>hóiwá. /Gwokýúh/ | 3. Léih Sàang sĭk góng Seuhng-<br>hóiwá; dōu sĭk góng Gwokýúh. |

4. Chàhn Táai sĭk góng Yíngmán. 4. Chàhn Táai sĭk góng Yíng-  
/Gwóngdùngwá/ mán; dōu sĭk góng Gwóng-  
dùngwá.
5. Hòh Siujé sĭk góng Seuhnghóiwá. 5. Hòh Siujé sĭk góng Seuhng-  
/Gwóngdùngwá/ hóiwá; dōu sĭk góng Gwóng-  
dùngwá.

## 9. Expansion Drill

- Ex: T: Kéuih sĭk góng Gwóng- He can speak Cantonese.  
dùngwá. /Gwok-yuh/ /Mandarin/  
+ S: Kéuih (yauh) sĭk góng He can speak Cantonese and  
Gwóngdùngwá, yauh Mandarin. or  
sĭk góng Gwok-yuh. He can speak both Cantonese  
[(both) ... and ...] and Mandarin.
1. Kéuih hohk Yahtmán. /Yíngmán/ 1. Kéuih jauh hohk Yahtmán,  
yauh hohk Yíngmán.  
He's studying written  
Japanese and English.
2. Ngóh gaau Jùngmán. /Yíngmán/ 2. Ngóh jauh gaau Jùngmán,  
yauh gaau Yíngmán.
3. Kéuih sĭk sé Yíngmán. 3. Kéuih jauh sĭk sé Yíngmán,  
/Yahtmán/ jauh sĭk sé Yahtmán.
4. Kéuih m̃hahh Méihgwokyáhn. 4. Kéuih jauh m̃hahh Méihgwok-  
/Yínggwokyáhn/ yáhn, jauh m̃hahh Yíng-  
gwokyáhn.
5. Ngóh m̃hhohk góng Gwok-yuh. 5. Ngóh jauh m̃hhohk góng Gwok-  
/Seuhnghóiwá/ yuh, jauh m̃hhohk góng  
Seuhnghóiwá.

## 10. Expansion Drill

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

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 3. Jèung Siujé hohk Gwóngdùngwá.<br>/kéuih pàhngyáuh/ | 3. Jèung Siujé tùhng kéuih<br>pàhngyáuh 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 Yahtmàhn.<br>/Chàhn Siujé/         | 5. Hòh Táai tùhng Chàhn Siujé<br>dōu sīk sé Yahtmàhn.              |

## 11. Expansion Drill

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

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

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Kéuih hohk Yíngmán. /Yahtmán/  | 1. Kéuih hohk Yíngmán tùhng<br>Yahtmán.                               |
| 2. Kéuihdeih gaau Jùngmàhn.<br>/Yíngmán/                                  | 2. Kéuihdeih gaau Jùngmàhn<br>tùhng Yíngmán.                          |
| 3. Léih Táai sīk sé Yahtmàhn.<br>/Jùngmán/                                | 3. Léih Táai sīk sé Yahtmán<br>tùhng Jùngmàhn.                        |
| + 4. Ngóh <u>sīk</u> 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: Bīngō gaau Gwóng-  
dùngwá a?  
          /Léih Sàang/

Who teaches Cantonese?

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

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Bīngō góng Seuhnghóiwá a?<br>/Hòh Táai/      | 1. Hòh Táai góng Seuhnghóiwá.           |
| 2. Bīngō hohk Gwokýúh a?<br>/Wòhng Sàang/       | 2. Wòhng Sàang hohk Gwokýúh.            |
| 3. Bīngō gaau Yíngmàhn a?<br>/Chàhn Siujé/      | 3. Chàhn Siujé gaau Yíngmàhn.           |
| 4. Bīngō 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 & Expansion Drill

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

T: Do you know Mr. Wong?

S: Ngóh sīk kéuih.  
Kéuih haih ngóh  
pàhngyáuh.

S: Yes, he is a friend of mine.

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

T: Do you know Mr. Wong?

S: Ngóh m̃hsīk kéuih.  
Kéuih haih bīngō  
a?

S: No, who is he?

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

1. Ngóh sīk kéuih. Kéuih haih  
ngóh pàhngyáuh.

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

2. Ngóh m̃hsīk kéuih. Kéuih haih  
bīngō a?

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

3. Ngóh sīk kéuih. Kéuih haih  
ngóh pàhngyáuh.

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

4. Ngóh m̃hsīk kéuih. Kéuih haih  
bīngō a?

### 14. Response Drill

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

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

S: M̃hsīk. Yahtbúnwá  
+ ngóh yāt geui dōu  
m̃hsīk 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 m̃hsīk góng Gwóng-  
dùngwá a? /shake/

1. M̃hsīk. Gwóngdùngwá ngóh  
yāt geui dōu m̃hsīk góng.

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

2. M̃hsīk. Gwokýuh ngóh yāt geui  
dōu m̃hsīk góng.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 3. Néih sĭk m̃hsĭk góng Seuhng-hóiwá a? /nod/ | 3. Sĭk sèsiu jē.                                    |
| 4. Néih sĭk m̃hsĭk góng Yíngmǎhn a? /nod/     | 4. Sĭk sèsiu jē.                                    |
| 5. Néih sĭk m̃hsĭk góng Yahtbúnwá a? /shake/  | 5. M̃hsĭk. Yahtbúnwá ngóh yāt geui dōu m̃hsĭk góng. |

## 15. Expansion Drill

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

## 16. Translation Drill

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

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

## 17. Translation Drill

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

## 18. Response Drill:

- |                                |                                      |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Ex: T: Kéuih haih bīngo a?     | T: Who is he?                        |
| /gaau Yǐngmán/                 | /teach English/                      |
| S: Kéuih haih gaau Yǐngmán ge. | S: He's someone who teaches English. |

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Kéuih haih bíngō a?<br>/sing Wòhng/       | 1. Kéuih haih síng Wòhng ge.            |
| 2. Kéuih haih bíngō a?<br>/gaaú Gwóngdùngwá/ | 2. Kéuih haih gaaú Gwóngdùng-<br>wá ge. |
| 3. Kéuih haih bíngō a?<br>/gaaú Yíngmán/     | 3. Kéuih haih gaaú Yíngmán ge.          |
| 4. Kéuih haih bíngō a?<br>/hohk Gwokýúh/     | 4. Kéuih haih hohk Gwokýúh 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<br>they are speaking. | 9. they're speaking English.                         |
| 10. whether his student is<br>American.            | 10. No, he's not an American, he's<br>an Englishman. |

## Vocabulary Checklist for Lesson 3

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| 1. bīngō?           | QW: who?   |
| 2. chí              | m: time, occasion  |
| 3. chīngchó         | 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. jǐ(dou)         | v: know (something)  |
| 17. joi             | adv: again   |
| 18. Joi góng yātchi | Ph: Say it again.  |
| 19. Jùngmāhn        | 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. sīk                             | v:       | to know someone  |
| 30. sīk                             | aux v/v: | know how (to do something)                                       |
| 31. tēng                            | v:       | hear, listen   |
| 32. Tòih sāanwá                     | n:       | Toishan dialect  |
| 33. tùhng                           | cj:      | and (connects nouns)   |
| 34. wá                              | n:       | spoken language, dialect   |
| 35. Yahtbúnwá                       | n:       | Japanese (spoken) language                                       |
| 36. Yahtmán                         | n:       | Japanese (written) language                                      |
| 37. Yahtmàhn                        | n:       | Japanese (written) language                                      |
| 38. yāt                             | nu:      | one  |
| 39. yāt chi                         | Ph:      | once [one-time]  |
| 40. yauh                            | adv:     | also (connects Verb Phrases)                                     |
| 41. yauh <u>V</u> , yauh <u>V</u> . | PAdv:    | both..., and ....  |
| 42. yih                             | nu:      | two  |
| 43. Yíngmàhn                        | n:       | English language   |
| 44. Yíngmán                         | 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 wānjaahp 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 Lành Gwok-jūng's office. The two had planned to have lunch together, and Mr. Léih has come to get Mr. Lành.

Léih:

dāk meih?

ready?

Baak-chiu, dāk meih?

Baak-chiu, are you ready?

Lành:

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.

Lành:

wá?

sentence suffix 'what did  
you say?'

Géidīm wá?

What time did you say?

Léih:

yāt go jīh

five minutes

Yāt dīm yāt go jīh.

It's one oh five.

Lành:

jéun

accurate

jéun m̀hjeun a?

accurate/not accurate

bīu

wristwatch, watch

go bīu

a watch

néih go bīu

your watch

Néih go bīu jéun m̀hjeun 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

dāng

dāng gái fānjūng

dāng ngóh gái fānjūng

joi dāng ngóh gái fānjūng

tīm

lā

Gám, joi dāng ngóh gái fānjūng  
tīm 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 dāng 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 certainty. |
| Àh hóu yisi bo. |             | I'm sorry.                             |
|                 | <u>Léih</u> |  |
| Àh gányiu.      |             | It's all right.                        |

B. Recapitulation:

|   |             |   |
|---|-------------|---|
|   | <u>Léih</u> |   |
| Baak-chíu, dāk meih?                                      |             | Baak-chíu, are you ready?                             |
|   | <u>Làuh</u> |   |
| Meih a. Géidím a?   |             | Not yet. What time is it?                             |
|   | <u>Léih</u> |   |
| Yíh gā ... (he looks at his watch) ... yāt dím daahp yāt. |             | It's ... five after one.                              |
|   | <u>Làuh</u> |   |
| Géidím wá?  |             | What time did you say?                                |
|   | <u>Léih</u> |   |
| Yāt dím yāt go jìh.                                       |             | It's one oh five.                                     |
|   | <u>Làuh</u> |   |
| Néih go bíu jéun àh jéun ga?                              |             | Is your watch accurate?<br>[Your watch accurate one?] |
|   | <u>Léih</u> |   |
| Chàhhdō--waahkjé faai sèsiu lā.                           |             | Approximately--or a little fast.                      |
|   | <u>Làuh</u> |   |
| Gám, joi dáng ngóh géi fānjūng tīm lā.                    |             | Well, wait for me a few minutes more, please.         |
|   | <u>Léih</u> |   |
| Hóu, ngóh dáng néih lā.                                   |             | OK, I'll wait for you.                                |
|   | <u>Làuh</u> |   |
| Àh hóu yisi bo.   |             | I'm sorry.  |
|   | <u>Léih</u> |   |
| Àh gányiu.  |             | 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 [ə] 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 [ə] plus the bilabial stop consonant p [p]. As a final p is unreleased: [p̚]. The a is relatively short in an isolated syllable: [ə·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 [ə], 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 m̃h jéun a? , jéun m̃h jéun a? ,  
jéun m̃h 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 k̚]. 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 . 同

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 [u̥n]/[õŋ]

Compare: Listen and repeat:

1. tùhng tùhng 同 , 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

- 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. géi? 'which number?' in time expressions

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

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

Ngdīm. = It's five o'clock.

2. Yīngā daahp géi 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 sah p dīm jūng gaau He teaches Cantonese at  
Gwóngdùngwá. 10 o'clock.

(See Drill 10)

2. A time expression which follows the verb indicates the length of time the action represented by the verb took/takes/will take place. We refer to the post-verb time expression as a "time spent" expression.

Ex: Mhgoi néih joi dáng                      Would you mind waiting for  
ngoh géi fānjūng tīm                      me a few more minutes.  
lā.

(See Drill 12)

3. Sentence suffix wá?

wá is an interrogative sentence suffix attaching to question-word questions, asking for a repeat of the <sup>preceding</sup> sentence. It has the force of " ??? did you (or he, etc.) say?"

Ex: 1. Géidīm wá?                      What time did you say it was?  
2. Bīngo gaau néih wá?              Who did you say taught you?  
3. Kéuih sing mēyéh wá?            What did you say his name  
was?

(See Drill 11)

4. Measures:

A Measure is a word in Cantonese which comes between a number (or a limited set of other entities) and a noun.

Ex: go                      = representative of a class of words  
called Measures.

Ngoh go bīu = my [Measure] watch = my watch

yāt go jih = one [Measure] figure = one figure, i.e.,  
(in relation to time on the clock dial)  
five minutes past the hour

Inasmuch as ordinary English nouns do not have a category of word standing between number (and certain other modifiers) and noun, Measures are usually not translatable in English equivalent sentences.

sāam go gwāt = 3 [M] quarters = three quarters

In follow sentences the Measure substitutes for the noun.

Ex: Kéuih go bīu jéun Mhjeun      His [M] watch--is it  
ga?    accurate?

Kéuih go m̀h-jéun.

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-jéun ga?

Is your watch accurate?

Ngóh go bíu m̀h-jéun.

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 |       | m̀h-jéun.        |

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. sàam | 8. baat     |
| 4. sei  | 9. gáu      |
| 5. ñgh  | 10. sahpyāt |

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

ten-one, ten-two, etc:

|             |              |
|-------------|--------------|
| 11. sahpyāt | 13. sahpsàam |
| 12. sahpyih | 14. sahapsei |

15. sahpn̄gh      18. sahpbāat  
 16. sahpluhk    19. sahpgáu  
 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,' yihsaahp, '20,' yihsaahpyih, '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 gotten 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

mean 'inciting to action,' including everything from peremptory commands to polite requests and also self-imperatives, such as the equivalent of 'I'll do such and such.') Perhaps the closest English equivalent for lā is a polite tone of voice. The connotation is 'please,' 'Would you mind...' and for the self-imperative, 'I'll...'

- Ex: 1. Mhgoi néih dáng ngóh      Would you please wait for  
       gái fānjūng tím lā.          me a few minutes more.
2. Hóu, ngóh dáng néih      OK, I'll wait for you.  
       lā.

(See BC)

10. Dialect variations: (ng)āam(ng)āam and others

Words in Cantonese which begin with aa, o, and u have a variant pronunciation in Standard Cantonese in which the initial vowel is preceded by ng.

Examples: āamāam, ngāamngāam 'exactly; just'

oi, ngoi 'want'

ūk, ngūk 'house'

(See Drill 5)

### III. DRILLS

Preliminary Number Drill: 6-10

1. Students listen.  
 Teacher counts off from one to five, then from six to ten, gesturing with fingers.  
 +      Yāt yih sām sei ng (1 time)  
       luhk chāt baat gáu sahp  
       (six seven eight nine ten)  
       (do 10 times)
2. Students in chorus count simultaneously with teacher.  
 Teacher counts from 6 to 10, using hand signals.  
       luhk chāt baat gáu sahp  
       (10 times)
3. Teacher silent, signals to an individual student to recite by himself.  
       luhk chāt baat gáu sahp
4. Random order count: Teacher indicates one finger at a time in random order, signalling students either individually or in chorus to call out appropriate number.  
       sahp, luhk, gáu. etc.  
       (approximately 30 numbers)

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. ngh (pause)                  | ngh dīm. (pause)             | ngh 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. sahpyāt (pause)             | sahpyāt dīm. (pause)         | sahpyāt 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. géi (pause)                 | géidīm? (pause)              | géidīmjūng? (pause)         |                    |
| Which<br>number?                | What o'clock?                | 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: géi? '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: Yīhgā chāt dīm.

It's seven o'clock. [Now seven o'clock.]

- |        |                      |
|--------|----------------------|
| 1. (3) | 1. Yīhgā sàam dīm.   |
| 2. (6) | 2. Yīhgā luhk dīm.   |
| 3. (9) | 3. Yīhgā gáu dīm.    |
| 4. (8) | 4. Yīhgā baat dīm.   |
| 5. (2) | 5. Yīhgā 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: Yīhgā daahp yat.

S: It's five after.

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

T: What time is it?

S<sub>2</sub>: Yīhgā daahp yāt.

S: It's five after.

- |        |  |
|--------|--|
| 1. 5   | 1. A. Yīhgā daahp géi a?<br>B. Yīhgā daahp ngh.                                    |
| 2. 7   | 2. A. Yīhgā daahp géi a?<br>B. Yīhgā daahp chāt.                                   |
| 3. 11  | 3. A. Yīhgā daahp géi a?<br>B. Yīhgā daahp sahpyāt.                                |
| 4. 8   | 4. A. Yīhgā daahp géi a?<br>B. Yīhgā daahp baat.                                   |
| 5. 6   | 5. A. Yīhgā daahp géi a?<br>B. Yīhgā <u>daahp bun</u> .<br>(daahp bun = half past) |
| + 6. 2 | 6. A. Yīhgā daahp géi a?<br>B. Yīhgā 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: Yíhgā sàam dím bun. T: It's half past three.  
[Now three o'clock half.]

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

- |                          |                                     |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Yíhgā léuhng dím bun. | 1. Yíhgā ngāamngāam léuhng dím bun. |
| 2. Yíhgā ngh dím bun.    | 2. Yíhgā ngāamngāam ngh dím bun.    |
| 3. Yíhgā luhk dím bun.   | 3. Yíhgā ngāamngāam luhk dím bun.   |
| 4. Yíhgā baat dím bun.   | 4. Yíhgā ngāamngāam baat dím bun.   |
| 5. Yíhgā sah p dím bun.  | 5. Yíhgā 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: Yíhgā sah p dím S: It's a quarter after ten.  
+ yāt go gwāt. [Now ten o'clock one quarter.]

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

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

S: Yíhgā 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. Yíhgā sàam dím daahp yìh.  | 1. Yíhgā sàam dím léuhng go jìh. |
| 2. Yíhgā sàam dím daahp séi.  | 2. Yíhgā sàam dím séi go jìh.    |
| 3. Yíhgā sàam dím daahp chāt. | 3. Yíhgā sàam dím chāt go jìh.   |
| 4. Yíhgā sàam dím daahp sàam. | 4. Yíhgā sàam dím sàam go jìh.   |
| 5. Yíhgā sàam dím daahp sah.  | 5. Yíhgā sàam dím sah 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-minutes 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 bíu  
faai sèsiu.  
/maahn sèsiu/

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

B: Léih Táai go bíu faai  
sèsiu; ngóh go  
maahn sèsiu.

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

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Léih Táai go bíu maahn sèsiu.<br>/faai sèsiu/         | 1. Léih Táai go bíu maahn<br>sèsiu, ngóh go faai sèsiu.              |
| 2. Léih Táai go bíu faai yātgo-<br>jìh. /maahn yātgojìh/ | 2. Léih Táai go bíu faai yātgo-<br>jìh, ngóh 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, ngóh go faai yāt<br>fānjūng.    |
| 4. Chàhn Táai go bíu faai sèsiu.<br>/maahn sèsiu/   | 4. Chàhn Táai go bíu faai sèsiu,<br>ngóh 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, ngóh go<br>faai yāt go gwāt. |

## 9. Response Drill:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| Ex: T: Kéuihdeih haih mǎh haih<br>Yínggwokyǎhn a?<br>/Méihgwokyǎhn/            | Are they English?<br>/Americans/                         |
| S: Ngóh mǎh jǐ. Waahkjé<br>haih Yínggwokyǎhn,<br>waahkjé haih<br>Méihgwokyǎhn. | I don't know - They may be<br>English, may be Americans. |
- 
- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. Kéuih haih mǎh haih Gwóng-<br>dùngyǎhn a? /Seuhng hóiyǎhn/ | 1. Ngóh mǎh jǐ, waahkjé haih<br>Gwóngdùngyǎhn, waahkjé<br>haih Seuhng hóiyǎhn. |
| 2. Kéuih haih mǎh haih Méihgwok-<br>yǎhn a? /Yínggwokyǎhn/    | 2. Ngóh mǎh jǐ, waahkjé haih<br>Méihgwokyǎhn, waahkjé<br>haih Yínggwokyǎhn.    |
| 3. Kéuih haih mǎh haih Seuhng hóiyǎhn a? /Gwóngdùngyǎhn/      | 3. Ngóh mǎh jǐ, waahkjé haih<br>Seuhng hóiyǎhn; waahkjé<br>haih Gwóngdùngyǎhn. |
| 4. Kéuih haih mǎh haih Jùnggwok-<br>yǎhn a? /Yahtbúnyǎhn/     | 4. Ngóh mǎh jǐ, waahkjé haih<br>Jùnggwokyǎhn; waahkjé<br>haih Yahtbúnyǎhn.     |
- a. Repeat, Teacher giving the two fillers only, students taking both parts of conversation, thus:
- T: /Yínggwokyǎhn/ Méihgwokyǎhn/  
S1: Kéuih haih mǎh haih Yínggwokyǎhn a?  
S2: Waahkjé haih Yínggwokyǎhn, waahkjé haih Méihgwokyǎhn.

## 10. Combining Drill:

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

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

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Yíngā gáu dīmjūng.<br>Kéuih gaau bīngō a?                               | 1. Kéuih gáu dīmjūng gaau<br>bīngō a?                                 |
| 2. Yíngā léuhng dīm yātógwāt.<br>Bīngō hohk Yíngmāhn a?                    | 2. Bīngō léuhng dīm yātógwāt<br>hohk Yíngmāhn a?                      |
| 3. Yíngā sàam dīm sàamgōgwāt.<br>Léih Sàang hohk mēyéh a?                  | 3. Léih Sàang sàam dīm sàamgō-<br>gwāt hohk mēyéh a?                  |
| 4. Yíngā sahpýāt dīm bun.<br>Ngóhdeih hohk sé Jūngmāhn.                    | 4. Ngóhdeih sahpýāt dīm bun<br>hohk sé Jūngmāhn.                      |
| 5. Yíngā sei dīm bun.<br>Hòh Sīujé gaau Méihgwokyāhn<br>Gwokýuh.           | 5. Hòh Sīujé sei dīm bun gaau<br>Méihgwokyāhn Gwokýuh.                |
| 6. Yíngā baat dīm sàamgōgwāt.<br>Jèung Táai gaau néih góng<br>Gwóngdùngwá. | 6. Jèung Táai baat dīm sàamgō-<br>gwāt 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 sahpdīm bun. T: It is now 10:30.

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

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

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

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Ngóhì néih dáng ngóh géi<br>fānjūng. | 1. Ngóhì néih dáng ngóh géi<br>fānjūng. |
|---|---|

2. /gêi go jih/

2. M̀hgoi nêih dáng ngóh gèi  
go jih.

3. /yāt go jih/

3. M̀hgoi nêih dáng ngóh yāt  
go jih.

4. /léuhng fānjūng/

4. M̀hgoi nêih dáng ngóh léuhng  
fānjūng.

5. /léuhng go jih/

5. M̀hgoi nêih dáng ngóh léuhng  
go jih.

## IV. CONVERSATIONS FOR LISTENING

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

## 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. gāu           | 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. Mhhou 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. sahp            nu: ten  
36. sahpāt          nu: eleven  
37. sahpaih        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