Introduction

Welcome to the Cantonese De-cal!

The Chinese language has many different dialects, Cantonese is one such dialect. It has evolved with time and the addition of new vocabulary and new slang terms. While it is mostly a spoken dialect, newspapers, magazines and other media do make use of the written form of Cantonese, which is made up of a mixture of standard Chinese characters and Cantonese characters. The Cantonese characters, like much of the Chinese written language, are often based on sounds, though not in the way of an alphabet. Cantonese is a tonal language with nine tones, making the differentiation between words often difficult to distinguish to the untrained ear. At the same time, the tonal quality of the language combined with the finite number of pronunciations make this dialect particularly conducive to puns.

Cantonese is widely spoken not only in Guangdong province, but also in Hong Kong and Macau, as well as throughout various Chinese communities in the world. Movies and music in this dialect are a major genre of popular culture particularly in Asian communities. Most notable in this genre dubbed "Canto-pop" are movies and popular music originating from Hong Kong with its own unique character.

Through this De-cal, we hope that you will gain some useful conversational skills and an appreciation for the singular individuality of the Cantonese dialect. Most importantly, we hope that you have an enjoyable experience. Remember, the key to learning a language is confidence and practice; don't be afraid to try out phrases and words learned in class!

Beginning and Intermediate Lessons written by Gary Lee

Pronunciation

The Cantonese pronunciation in this book is romanized using the Yale system, which is one of the main Romanization schemes used for the instruction of Cantonese for foreign students. Below is the layout of the Yale system with the corresponding transcriptions in the International Phonetic Alphabet.

	Initial Consonants	Vowels				
Yale	IPA	Yale	IPA			
b	р	i	i:			
р	ph		e (before ng, k)			
m	m	yu	y:			
f	f	u	u:			
d	t		o (before ng, k)			
t	th	e	:3			
n	n	0	o:			
1	I	eu	oe:			
g k	k		ø (before n, t)			
k	kh	a (with final)	В			
ng	D	a/aa	a:			
h	h	iu	iw			
j	ts	eui	øЧ			
ch	tsh	ui	uЧ			
S	S	ei	ej			
У	j	oi	oj			
gw	kw	ou	OW			
kw	kwh	ai	ej			
W	W	au	Ма			
		aai	a:j			
		aau	a:w			

Final Consonants

Yale	IPA
m	m
n	n
ng	Ŋ
р	р
t	t
k	k

Notes: (1) The consonants (except for *ch* and *j*) are identical to their pronunciations in English. (2) The consonant [y] + vowel [yu] \rightarrow [yu], example: yu 'fish'. (3) The consonants m and ng may also occur as independent syllables.

Tones

Cantonese is a tonal language, which means that a syllable pronounced at different pitches indicates a different word. There are traditionally 9 basic (lexical) tones in Cantonese – 6 distinctive tones and 3 for consonants ending in p, t, or k. In addition, there are contexts in which a word changes its basic tone due to morphological or semantic reasons.

The tones in this book will be marked after the syllable with the numbers 1-6, which denote the respective tones listed in the chart below. Pitch values are based on

the 5-point scale, with 5 being the highest pitch and 1 being the lowest pitch. (Note: For those who may have learned Yale, it traditionally uses accent marks and the letter h instead of numbers; however, this course will use numbers.)

Tones (illustrated with the syllable *si*)

		- <i>j</i> /	1	
Tone	Pitch	Description	Example Word	English Meaning
Number				
1	55	High level	si ¹	Silk
2	35	High rising	si ²	Feces
3	33	Mid level	si ³	To try
4	21	Low level	si ⁴	Time
5	23	Low rising	si ⁵	Market
6	22	Low level	si ⁶	A matter

Tones with p, t, k finals

Tone Number	Pitch	Description	Example Word	English Meaning
1	5	High level	sik ¹	To know
3	3	Mid level	sit ³	Sit (a surname)
6	2	Low level	sik ⁶	To eat

Changed tones:

Examples:

Note: In certain areas such as Guangzhou, there also exists a high-falling tone (53), which is not considered distinct from the Tone 1 (high-level 55), due to free variation among speakers. Therefore, this tone will not be marked in this text.

Pronunciation Variations

Due to ongoing sound change in Cantonese, certain sounds may be pronounced differently depending on speaker. The effect of such changes is leading to the loss of certain sound distinctions. Generally speaking, younger speakers, especially in Hong Kong, tend to have this pronunciation, dubbed "lazy speech". Here is a list of common variations you may encounter:

- 1) Loss of initial ng-, example: ngo5 'l' \rightarrow o5
- 2) Initial $n \rightarrow 1$, example: nei5 'you' $\rightarrow 1$ lei5
- 3) Syllabic ng → m, example: ng5 'five' → m5 'five'
- 4) Initial gw →g before o or u: gwok3 'country' → 'gok3', gwo3 'to pass' → 'go3'
- 5) Final ng → n, example: saang1 'live' → saan1
- 6) Final k → t, example: baak3 'hundred' → baat3

Pronunciation Tips

These tips are meant to be approximations, since actual pronunciation may vary. Remember that Cantonese has dialectal variation*, just as English has dialectal variation. So, even the English used here is not the same with all speakers. Imitating what you hear will be most helpful.

Consonants

<u>Initial</u> consonants are pronounced similarly as they would be in English, with the exception of *j/ch*

Consonants	Sound in English
b	b in <u>b</u> at
р	p in p at
m	m in <u>m</u> at
f	f in <u>f</u> at
	_
d	d in <u>d</u> ad
t	t in <u>t</u> ack
n	n in <u>n</u> o
[I in <u>I</u> ow
g	g in g ame
k	k in <u>k</u> id

	II
Consonants	Sound in English
ng	like ng in si <u>ng</u>
h	h in <u>h</u> am
j	ds in da <u>ds</u> ; close to j in jeep
ch	ts in rats; close to ch in
	<u>ch</u> eap
S	s in <u>s</u> ee
y	y in <u>y</u> es
gw	gu in the name <u>Gu</u> am
kw	qu in <u>qu</u> ite, <u>qu</u> een
W	w in <u>w</u> ait

<u>Final</u> consonants are also pronounced similarly as they would be in English, that means they aren't released (no puff of air) at the end.

Consonants	Sound in English
р	p in ma <u>p</u>
t	t in ma <u>t</u>
k	k in tic <u>k</u>

Consonants	Sound in English
ng	ng in si <u>ng</u>
m	m in ra <u>m</u>
n	n in soo <u>n</u>

Vowels

Vowels are a bit tougher, some sounds are not apparent in English, and some may not exist.

Consonants	Sound in English
i	ee in m <u>ee</u> t
i (before k ng)	i in t <u>i</u> ck
yu	like <i>German</i> ii; make it by
	rounding ee in meet
u	oo in m <u>oo</u> n
u (before k, ng)	oo in c <u>oo</u> k
е	e in <u>e</u> nd
0	∼ o in <i>British Eng</i> p <u>o</u> rk
ou	ow in ro <u>w</u>
ai	i in n <u>i</u> ght
aai	i in h <u>i</u> gh
aau	ow in cow

Consonants	Sound in English
eu	~ i in <i>British Eng</i> dirt; make it
	by rounding e in end
eu before t, n	make it by rounding i in tick
a with final	u in d <u>u</u> ck
	_
a/aa	a in f <u>a</u> ther
iu	close to <i>English</i> "Eww!"
	(showing disgust)
eui	-
au	ou in <u>ou</u> t
ui	-
ei	ey in h <u>ey</u> !
oi	oy in b <u>oy</u>
ew	-

Pronunciation Practice

Bas -a	ic Syll	ables																
ba	pa ı	ma fa	a d	da	ta r	na	la	ga	ka	nga	ha	gwa	kwa	wa	ja	cha	sa	ya
-е be	ре	m	е	fe	ı	ne		le	ç	ge	ke	je	che	e s	e	ye		
-i ni	li	ji		ch	i s	si		yi			-u fu	gu	ku	V	vu			
-о Во	ро	mo	fo	do	to		lo	go	o 1	ko	ngo	ho	gwo	WO	jo	cho	so	
Fina	als –p / dip		ł	dik	(Finals	n/ - dim	- m vs sar	•	n s	ana			

					Long vs Short –a: -a/-aa -ai/aai, -au/-aau Long in brackets						
si	sip/sit	sim/sin	[sik/sing]	sat	[saat]	sang	[saang]	bak	[baak]		
wu	wut	wun	[fuk/fung]	sai	[saai]	lap	[laap]	bat	[baat]		
seu	seut	jau	[jaau]	kau/g	au	[kaau]/[gaau]				
D -\	ifficult Vow	vels		ı -eı	ui						

yu	syu	jyu	jyut	tyut	syut	hyut	seui	jeui	keui	heui	deui	teui
-ui wui	gui	mui	pui	bui			-ew dew	jew				
Oth -ou	er Vowe	ls		-ei				-oi				
dou	hou	mou		bei	nei	sei		hoi	goi	noi		
-iu giu	miu	piu	chiu	liu								

References

Hutton, C., & Bolton, K. (2005). *A Dictionary of Cantonese Slang*. Singapore: Singapore University Press.

Matthews, S., Yip, V. (1994). Cantonese: A Comprehensive Grammar. Rutledge: New York.

Numbers

0 Zero	零	ling ⁴	10 Ten	+	sap ⁶
1 One		yat ¹	11 Eleven	+-	sap ¹ yat ¹ Lit. ten and one
2 Two	<u> </u>	yi ⁶	12 Twelve	十二	sap ¹ yi ⁶ Lit. ten and two
	兩	leung ⁵ (before noun/counter)	20 Twenty	二十	yi ⁶ sap ⁶ Lit. two tens
3 Three	\equiv	saam ¹		廿	ya ⁶ (colloq short form)
4 Four	几	sei ⁴	30 Thirty	三十	saam ¹ sap ⁶ ; sa ¹ a ⁶ colloq
5 Five	Ŧī.	m ⁵	100 One Hundred	一百	yat ¹ baak ³
6 Six	六	luk ⁶	1,000 One Thousand	一千	yat ¹ chin ¹
7 Seven	七	chat ¹	10,000 Ten thousand	一萬	yat¹maan ⁶
8 Eight	八	baat ³	-th	第	dai ⁶ + (number)
9 Nine	零	gau ²	½ half	半	bun ³

Numbers from 10 to 99 are formed by multiplying tens, eg. 52 = 5 x 10 + 2 52 fifty two $\pm \pm$ m⁵ sap⁶ yi⁶

Short Forms

 $\equiv +$ (20) is commonly pronounced \pm ya⁶ (or ye⁶) instead of yi⁶ sap⁶, provided it is followed by another number, a measure word, or a noun

+ (10) sap⁶ can be shortened to a⁶ in numbers from 31 to 99, when it is followed by another number or measure word, or a noun.

四十一 (41)
$$sei^3 sap^6 yat^1$$
 or $sei^3 a^6 yat^1$

Similarly, you can say sa 1 a 6 for $\equiv +$ saam 1 sap 6 when it is followed by another number, a measure word, or a noun

Numbers and the Tones of Cantonese

Since the tone values of each of the Cantonese Numbers 0-9 are different, they can be used to remember the tones in Cantonese.

Tone	Description	Number w/ corresponding tone			
1 st	55 high level	3 – saam ¹			
2 nd	35 high rising	9 – gau ²			
3 rd	33 mid level	4 – sei ³			
4 th	21 low falling	0 – ling ⁴			
5 th	23 low rising	5 – ng ⁵			
6 th	22 low level	2 – yi ^{<u>6</u>}			
short t	short tones with -p/-t/-k endings				
1 st	5 high	1 – yat ¹			
3 rd	3 mid	8 – baat ³			
6 th	2 low	6 – luk ⁶ <i>or</i> 10 – sap ⁶			

Again, the sequence is **3-9-4-0-5-2**, each representing the tones 1 to 6, and then **1-8-6** for the short tones 1, 3, and 6.

Common Phrases

Hey! wai/wei6 喂 Hello? (on the phone) wai/wei2 喂 Hello (fml.) nei5 hou2 你好						
How are you/What's up? dim2 a3? 點呀 How are you? (fml.) nei5 hou2 ma3? 你好嗎						
How have you been lately? ni1paai4 dim2 a3? 呢排點呀 or jeui3gan6 dim2 a3? 最近點呀? How have you been lately? (fml.) ni1paai4/jeui3gan6 gei2 hou2 ma? 呢排/最近幾好嗎						
Good morning jou2san4 早晨 Good night jou2tau2 早唞						
Bye! baai1baai3 拜拜 (fml.) joi3gin3 再見 See you later! chi4di1gin3 遲啲見						
See you tomorrow! ting1yat6 gin3 聽日見						
My name is ngo5 giu3 我叫 I'm years old ngo5seui3 我歲						
I'm from ngo5 hai2 lei4 ga3 我喺 嚟架						
Thank you! m5goi1 唔該 (for a favor/service) do1je6 多謝 (for a gift, huge favors, metaphorically)						
You're welcome m4sai2 haak3hei3 唔使(客氣)						
Have you eaten yet? (a greeting) nei5 sik6 jo2 faan6 mei6 a3? 你食咗飯未呀?						
How do you say in Cantonese? yung6 gwong2dung1wa2 dim2 gong2 a3?用廣東話點講呀?						
Do you understand? nei5 ming4 m4 ming4 a3? 你明唔明呀? Can you understand (what was said)? nei5 teng1 dak1 ming4 ma3? 你聽得明嗎?						
Sorry! m4hou2 yi3si1/3 唔好意思 (more seriously, at fault) deui3m4jyu6 對唔住						
I don't understand ngo5 m4 ming4 我唔明 I can't understand (what was said) ngo5 teng1 m4 ming4 我聽唔明						
Any questions? yau5mou5 man6tai4 有有問題						
Could you speak slower? cheng2 nei5 gong2 maan6 di1 請你講慢啲Could you speak louder? cheng2 nei5 gong2 daai6seng1 di1 請你講大聲啲						
Could you say that once again? cheng2 nei5 joi3 gong2 do1 yat1 ci3 請你再講多一次						
Could you please? cheng2/ma4faan4 nei5 請/麻煩你 Please! m4goi1.! 唔該!						
Excuse me, I wanna ask cheng2man6, 請問, <i>or</i> m4goi1, ngo5 seung2 man6, 唔該, 我想問						

Common Phrases 2

RUNNING INTO A FRIEND] What are you up to? jou ⁶ gan² mat¹ ye⁵ a³	<u>English</u>	Yale Romanization	<u>Characters</u>
Where are you going? heui³ bin¹ dou⁰ a³	[RUNNING INTO A FRIEND]		
Are you going to class? Are you going to class? Are you going home? Are you going home? Do you want to study together? Let's go grab some dim sum sometime dak' haan' cheut' lai' yam' cha' Let's go grab some dim sum sometime dak' haan' cheut' lai' yam' cha' Hill出黎钦茶 Call me! COMMENTS & EMERGENCY Awesome!	What are you up to?	jou ⁶ gan² mat¹ ye⁵ a³	做緊乜野呀?
Are you going home? nei³ hai³ m⁴ hai³ faan¹ uk¹ kei² a³? 你係來返屋企呀? Do you want to study together? yat¹ chai⁴ wan¹ syu¹ hou² m⁴ hou² a³? 一齊溫書好唔好呀? Let's go grab some dim sum sometime dak¹ haan⁴ cheut¹ lai⁴ yam² cha⁴ 得用上黎钦茶 Call me! dak² haan⁴ ko¹ ngo⁵ / 得用 Call 我/ dak² haan⁴ ko¹ ngo⁵ / 得用打伸我 [COMMENTS & EMERGENCY] Awesome! hou² sai¹ lei³ 好單利 Put on more clothes (stay warm) jeuk³ do¹ gin⁶ saam¹ 著多件衫 You look good today nei⁵ gam¹ yat⁶ hou² leng³ wo³ 你今日好靚喎 Hurry up! faai³ d¹ la¹ 快 d m Help! gau³ meng⁶ 数命 bin¹ dou³ yau⁵ sai² sau² gaan¹ /chi³ so²? [BRAGGING ABOUT YOUR CANTO-PROFICIENCY] I don't speak Cantonese ngo⁵ sik¹ gong² gwong² dung¹ wa⁶ 我職講少少廣東話 I speak a little Cantonese ngo⁵ sik¹ gong² siu² siu² gwong² dung¹ wa⁶ 我職講少少廣東話 I speak Cantonese fluently ngo⁵ di¹ gwong² dung¹ wa⁶ nou² lau⁴ lei⁰ ga¹ 找 d 廣東話好流利嫁 [SHARING OUR FEELINGS] I want to go home ngo⁵ seung² faan¹ uk¹ kei² 我想逐屋企 I don't feel well. ngo⁵ m⁴ syu¹ fuk⁶ 我唔舒服 I am happy ngo⁵ hou² nau¹ 我好開心 I am unhappy ngo⁵ hou² nau¹ 我好開心 I am unhappy ngo⁵ hou² nau¹ 我好哪別 I am sleepy ngo⁵ hou² nau¹ 我好那別 I want to cry ngo⁵ seung² ham³ 我我們職	Where are you going?	heui ³ bin ¹ dou ⁶ a ³	去邊到呀?
Do you want to study together? yat¹ chai⁴ wan¹ syu¹ hou² m⁴ hou² a³? 一齊溫書好唔好呀? Let's go grab some dim sum sometime dak¹ haan⁴ cheut¹ lai⁴ yam² cha⁴ 伊閒出黎飲茶 Call me! dak⁴ haan⁴ ko¹ ngo⁵ / 伊閒打俾我 [COMMENTS & EMERGENCY] Awesome! hou² sai¹ lei® 好犀利 Put on more clothes (stay warm) jeuk³ do¹ gin⁶ saam¹ 著多件衫 You look good today nei⁵ gam¹ yat⁶ hou² leng³ wo³ 你今日好觀陽 Hurry up! faai³ di¹ la¹ 快 d 啦 Help! gau³ meng⁶ 救命 Where is the nearest restroom? fu⁰ gan⁶ bin¹ dou³ yau⁵ sai² sau² gaan¹ /chi² so²? MT进過到有洗手間/廁所 [BRAGGING ABOUT YOUR CANTO-PROFICIENCY] I don't speak Cantonese ngo⁵ sik¹ gong² gwong² dung¹ wa⁶ 我職講少少廣東話 I speak a little Cantonese ngo⁵ sik¹ gong² giv² siu² gwong² dung¹ wa⁶ 我職講少少廣東話 I speak Cantonese fluently ngo⁶ di¹ gwong² dung¹ wa⁶ hou² lau⁴ lei⁶ ga³¹我 d 廣東話於流利嫁 [SHARING OUR FEELINGS] I want to go home ngo⁶ seung² faan¹ uk¹ kei² 我想返屋企 I don't feel well. ngo⁶ m⁴ syu¹ fuk⁶ 我咱舒服 I am happy ngo⁶ hou² noi¹ sam¹ 我好開心 I am unhappy ngo⁶ hou² hoi¹ sam¹ 我好明心 I am unhappy ngo⁶ hou² nau¹ 我好關 I am sleepy ngo⁶ hou² ngan⁶ fan³ 我好眼瞓 I am sleepy ngo⁶ hou² ngan⁶ fan³ 我好眼瞓 I want to cry ngo⁶ seung² ham³ 我想喊 I like _ (sleeping / play video games ngo jung¹ yi² _ (fan³ gaau³ / 我種意 _ (關營/ I like _ (sleeping / play video games ngo jung¹ yi² _ (fan³ gaau³ / 我種意 _ (關營/ I like _ (sleeping / play video games ngo jung¹ yi² _ (fan³ gaau³ / 我種意 _ (關營/ I like _ (sleeping / play video games ngo jung¹ yi² _ (fan³ gaau³ / 我種意 _ (關營/ I ham on the sull on the sull lai yat ngo hou² ngan⁶ hou² ngan⁶ fan³ 我想感	Are you going to class?	nei ⁵ hai ⁶ m ⁴ hai ⁶ heui ³ seung ⁵ tong ⁴ a ³ ?	你係咪去上堂呀?
Let's go grab some dim sum sometime dak¹ haan⁴ cheu¹ lar⁴ yam² cha⁴	Are you going home?	nei ⁵ hai ⁶ m ⁴ hai ⁶ faan ¹ uk ¹ kei ² a ³ ?	你係咪返屋企呀?
Call me! dak⁴ haan⁴ ko¹ ngo⁵ / dak¹ haan⁴ ko¹ ngo⁵ / 得閒打俾我 [COMMENTS & EMERGENCY] Awesome! hou² sai¹ lei⁵ 好犀利 Put on more clothes (stay warm) jeuk³ do¹ gin⁶ saam¹ 著多件衫 You look good today nei⁵ gam¹ yat⁶ hou² leng³ wo³ 你今日好觀喎 Hurry up! faai³ di¹ la¹ 快 d 啦 Help! gau³ meng⁶ 救命 Where is the nearest restroom? fu⁶ gan⁶ bin¹ dou³ yau⁶ sai² sau² gaan¹ /chi³ so²? Mi近邊到有洗手間/廁所 [BRAGGING ABOUT YOUR CANTO-PROFICIENCY] I don't speak Cantonese ngoʻ m⁴ sik¹ gong² gwong² dung¹ wa⁶ 我聽講廣東話 I speak a little Cantonese ngoʻ sik¹ gong² siu² siu² gwong² dung¹ wa⁶ 我聽講少少廣東話 I speak Cantonese fluently ngoʻ di¹ gwong² dung¹ wa⁶ hou² lau⁴ lei⁶ ga³ ty d 廣東話好流利嫁 [SHARING OUR FEELINGS] I want to go home ngoʻ seung² faan¹ uk¹ kei² 我想返屋企 I don't feel well. ngoʻ m⁴ syu¹ fuk⁶ 我唔舒服 I am happy ngoʻ hou² noi¹ sam¹ 我好唔加 I am nagry ngoʻ hou² nau¹ 我好哪 I am angry ngoʻ hou² nau¹ 我好哪 I am sleepy ngoʻ hou² nau¹ 我好哪 I am sleepy ngoʻ hou² nau¹ 我好哪 I want to cry ngoʻ seung² ham³ 我想喊 I like _ (sleeping / play video games ngo jung¹ yi³ _ (fan³ gaau³ /我鍾意 _ (順覺/ I tille/	Do you want to study together?	yat¹ chai⁴ wan¹ syu¹ hou² m⁴ hou² a³?	一齊溫書好唔好呀?
COMMENTS & EMERGENCY] Awesome! hou² sai¹ lei® 好犀利 Put on more clothes (stay warm) jeuk³ do¹ gin® saam¹ 著多件衫 You look good today nei⁵ gam¹ yat® hou² leng³ wo³ 你今日好觀隔 Hurry up! faai³ di¹ la¹ 快d 啦 Help! gau³ meng® 救命 Where is the nearest restroom? fu® gan® bin¹ dou³ yau⁵ sai² sau² gaan¹ /chi³ so²? Whise is the nearest restroom? fu® gan® bin¹ dou³ yau⁵ sai² sau² gaan¹ /chi³ so²? I don't speak Cantonese ngo⁵ m⁴ sik¹ gong² gwong² dung¹ wa® 我唔識講廣東話 speak a little Cantonese ngo⁵ sik¹ gong² siu² siu² gwong² dung¹ wa® 我識講少少廣東話 speak Cantonese fluently ngo⁵ di¹ gwong² dung¹ wa® hou² lau⁴ lei® ga³ 找 d 廣東話好流利嫁 SHARING OUR FEELINGS] want to go home ngo⁵ seung² faan¹ uk¹ kei² 我想返屋企 I don't feel well. ngo⁵ m⁴ syu¹ fuk® 我唔新服 I am happy ngo⁵ hou² noi¹ sam¹ 我好唔用心 I am nangry ngo⁵ hou² nau¹ 我好唔開心 I am angry ngo⁵ hou² nau¹ 我好哪 I am sleepy ngo⁵ hou² ngaan⁵ fan³ 我好唔開心 I am sleepy ngo⁵ hou² ngaan⁵ fan³ 我好唔開心 I am sleepy ngo⁵ hou² ngaan⁵ fan³ 我好唔開心 I want to cry ngo⁵ seung² ham³ 我樣順 (關營/ mg/) I ike (sleeping / play video games ngo jung¹ yi³ (fan³ gaau³ / 按鍾意 (關營/ mg/) I ike (sleeping / play video games ngo jung¹ yi³ (fan³ gaau³ / 按鍾意 (關營/ mg/)	Let's go grab some dim sum sometime	dak ¹ haan ⁴ cheut ¹ lai ⁴ yam ² cha ⁴	得閒出黎飲茶
COMMENTS & EMERGENCY Awesome! hou² sai¹ lei® 好犀利 Put on more clothes (stay warm) jeuk³ do¹ gin® saam¹ 著多件衫 You look good today nei® gam¹ yat® hou² leng³ wo³ 你今日好靚喝 Hurry up! faai³ di¹ la¹ 快 d 啦 Help! gau³ meng® 救命 Where is the nearest restroom? fu® gan® bin¹ dou³ yau⁵ sai² sau² gaan¹ /chi³ so²?	Call me!	dak ⁴ haan ⁴ ko ¹ ngo ⁵ /	得閒 Call 我/
Awesome! hou² sai¹ lei⁶ 好犀利 Put on more clothes (stay warm) jeuk³ do¹ gin⁶ saam¹ 著多件衫 You look good today nei⁶ gam¹ yat⁶ hou² leng³ wo³ 你今日好觀喎 Hurry up! faai³ di¹ la¹ 快d 啦 Help! gau³ meng⁶ 救命 Where is the nearest restroom? fu⁶ gan⁶ bin¹ dou³ yau⁶ sai² sau² gaan¹ /chi³ so²? 附近邊到有洗手間/厠所 BRAGGING ABOUT YOUR CANTO-PROFICIENCY] I don't speak Cantonese ngo⁶ m⁴ sik¹ gong² gwong² dung¹ wa⁶ 我職講座東話 I speak a little Cantonese ngo⁶ sik¹ gong² siu² siu² gwong² dung¹ wa⁶ 我職講少少廣東話 I speak Cantonese fluently ngo⁶ di¹ gwong² dung¹ wa⁶ hou² lau⁴ lei⁶ ga³!我 d 廣東話好流利嫁 SHARING OUR FEELINGS] I want to go home ngo⁶ seung² faan¹ uk¹ kei² 我想返屋企 I don't feel well. ngo⁶ m⁴ syu¹ fuk⁶ 我唔舒服 I am happy ngo⁶ hou² hoi¹ sam¹ 我好關心 I am unhappy ngo⁶ hou² nau¹ 我好關心 I am angry ngo⁶ hou² nau¹ 我好關 I am angry ngo⁶ hou² nau¹ 我好關 I am sleepy ngo⁶ hou² nau¹ 我好關 I want to cry ngo⁶ seung² ham³ 我找順 I want to cry ngo⁶ seung² ham³ 我找順 I like _ (sleeping / play video games / a person etc.) da² gei¹ / nei⁶) 打機/ 你)		dak ¹ haan ⁴ da ² (din ⁶ wa ⁶) bei ² ngo ⁵	得閒打俾我
Put on more clothes (stay warm) jeuk³ do¹ gin⁶ saam¹ 著多件衫 You look good today nei⁶ gam¹ yat⁶ hou² leng³ wo³ 你今日好靓喎 Hurry up! faai³ di¹ la¹ 快 d 啦 Help! gau³ meng⁶ 救命 Where is the nearest restroom? fu⁶ gan⁶ bin¹ dou³ yau⁵ sai² sau² gaan¹ /chi³ so²? 附近邊到有洗手間/廁所 BRAGGING ABOUT YOUR CANTO-PROFICIENCY] I don't speak Cantonese ngo⁶ m⁴ sik¹ gong² gwong² dung¹ wa⁶ 我唔識講廣東話 I speak a little Cantonese ngo⁶ sik¹ gong² siu² siu² gwong² dung¹ wa⁶ 我識講少少廣東話 I speak Cantonese fluently ngo⁶ di¹ gwong² dung¹ wa⁶ hou² lau⁴ lei⁶ ga³!我 d 廣東話好流利嫁 SHARING OUR FEELINGS] I want to go home ngo⁶ seung² faan¹ uk¹ kei² 我想返屋企 I don't feel well. ngo⁶ m⁴ syu¹ fuk⁶ 我唔舒服 I am happy ngo⁶ hou² hoi¹ sam¹ 我好開心 I am unhappy ngo⁶ hou² m⁴ hoi¹ sam¹ 我好唔開心 I am angry ngo⁶ hou² ma¹ to ry I am sleepy ngo⁶ hou² nau¹ 我好赐 I am sleepy ngo⁶ hou² ngaan⁶ fan³ 我好眼瞓 I want to cry ngo⁶ seung² ham³ 我好眼瞓 I want to cry ngo⁶ seung² ham³ 我找喊 I like _ (sleeping / play video games ngo jung¹ yi³ _ (fan³ gaau³ /我鍾意 _ (即營/ the far and sept / paeson etc.) faba gaau² /我鍾意 _ (即營/ the far and sept / paeson etc.)	[COMMENTS & EMERGENCY]		
You look good today nei ⁵ gam¹ yat ⁶ hou² leng³ wo³ 你今日好觀喎 Hurry up! faai³ di¹ la¹ 快d 啦 抉命 Where is the nearest restroom? fu ⁶ gan ⁶ bin¹ dou³ yau⁵ sai² sau² gaan¹/chi³ so²? Where is the nearest restroom? fu ⁶ gan ⁶ bin¹ dou³ yau⁵ sai² sau² gaan¹/chi³ so²? Where is the nearest restroom? fu ⁶ gan ⁶ bin¹ dou³ yau⁵ sai² sau² gaan¹/chi³ so²? Where is the nearest restroom? fu ⁶ gan ⁶ bin¹ dou³ yau⁵ sai² sau² gaan¹/chi³ so²? Where is the nearest restroom? fu ⁶ gan ⁶ bin¹ dou³ yau⁵ sai² sau² gaan¹/chi³ so²? Where is the nearest restroom? fu ⁶ gan ⁶ bin¹ dou³ yau⁵ sai² sau² gaan¹/chi³ so²? Where is the nearest restroom? fu ⁶ gan ⁶ bin¹ dou³ yau⁵ sai² sau² gaan¹/chi³ so²? Where is the nearest restroom? fu ⁶ gan ⁶ bin¹ dou³ yau⁵ sau² gaan¹/chi³ sao²? Where is the nearest restroom? fu ⁶ gan ⁶ bin¹ dou³ yau⁵ sau² gaan¹/chi³ sao²? Where is the nearest restroom? fu ⁶ gan ⁶ bin¹ dou³ yau⁵ sau² gaan¹ wa⁶ thou³ wa⁶ thou³ wa⁶ thou³ wa⁶ thou³ wa⁶ thou³ wa⁶ thou² lau⁴ lei gan³ thou² ma¹ wa⁶ saun² wa⁶ hou² lau⁴ lei gan³ thou² ma¹ wa⁶ saun² wa⁶ hou² lau⁴ lei gan³ thou² ma¹ wa⁶ saun² wa⁶ hou² lau⁴ lei gan³ thou² ma² waſ	Awesome!	hou² sai¹ lei ⁶	好犀利
Hurry up! faai³ di¹ la¹ 快d 啦 Help! gau³ meng6 救命 Where is the nearest restroom? fu⁶ gan⁶ bin¹ dou³ yau⁵ sai² sau² gaan¹ /chi³ so²? 附近邊到有洗手間/廁所 [BRAGGING ABOUT YOUR CANTO-PROFICIENCY] I don't speak Cantonese ngo⁵ m⁴ sik¹ gong² gwong² dung¹ wa⁶ 我离講廣東話 speak a little Cantonese ngo⁵ sik¹ gong² siu² siu² gwong² dung¹ wa⁶ 我識講少少廣東話 ngo⁵ sik¹ gwong² dung¹ wa⁶ hou² lau⁴ lei⁶ ga³!我 d 廣東話好流利嫁 [SHARING OUR FEELINGS] I want to go home ngo⁵ seung² faan¹ uk¹ kei² 我想返屋企 don't feel well. ngo⁶ m⁴ syu¹ fuk⁶ 我唔舒服 am happy ngo⁵ hou² hoi¹ sam¹ 我好開心 am angry ngo⁵ hou² nau¹ 我好開心 am angry ngo⁵ hou² nau¹ 我好哪 ngo⁶ hou² nau¹ 我好哪 lam sleepy ngo⁶ hou² ngaan⁶ fan³ 我好眼瞓 want to cry ngo⁶ seung² ham³ 我我眼喊 like(sleeping / play video games / a person etc.) da² gei¹ / nei⁶) 打機/ 你)	Put on more clothes (stay warm)	jeuk ³ do ¹ gin ⁶ saam ¹	著多件衫
Help!	You look good today	nei ⁵ gam ¹ yat ⁶ hou ² leng ³ wo ³	你今日好靚喎
Where is the nearest restroom? fu ⁶ gan ⁶ bin ¹ dou ³ yau ⁵ sai ² sau ² gaan ¹ /chi ³ so ² ? 附近邊到有洗手間/廁所 [BRAGGING ABOUT YOUR CANTO-PROFICIENCY] I don't speak Cantonese	Hurry up!	faai ³ di ¹ la ¹	快d啦
BRAGGING ABOUT YOUR CANTO-PROFICIENCY] I don't speak Cantonese ngo ⁵ m ⁴ sik¹ gong² gwong² dung¹ wa ⁶ 我晤識講廣東話 speak a little Cantonese ngo ⁵ sik¹ gong² siu² siu² gwong² dung¹ wa ⁶ 我議講少少廣東話 speak Cantonese fluently ngo ⁵ di¹ gwong² dung¹ wa ⁶ hou² lau⁴ lei ⁶ ga³!我 d 廣東話好流利嫁 SHARING OUR FEELINGS] I want to go home ngo ⁵ seung² faan¹ uk¹ kei² 我想返屋企 don't feel well. ngo ⁵ m⁴ syu¹ fuk ⁶ 我唔舒服 和 happy ngo ⁵ hou² hoi¹ sam¹ 我好開心 am unhappy ngo ⁵ hou² m⁴ hoi¹ sam¹ 我好唔開心 am angry ngo ⁵ hou² nau¹ 我好哪 am sleepy ngo ⁵ hou² ngaan ⁵ fan³ 我好眼瞓 want to cry ngo ⁵ seung² ham³ 我想喊 比較明 以表情 以表情	Help!	gau ³ meng ⁶	救命
[BRAGGING ABOUT YOUR CANTO-PROFICIENCY] I don't speak Cantonese ngo ⁵ m ⁴ sik ¹ gong ² gwong ² dung ¹ wa ⁶ 我晤識講廣東話 speak a little Cantonese ngo ⁵ sik ¹ gong ² siu ² siu ² gwong ² dung ¹ wa ⁶ 我識講少少廣東話 ngo ⁵ di ¹ gwong ² dung ¹ wa ⁶ hou ² lau ⁴ lei ⁶ ga ³ !我d 廣東話好流利嫁 [SHARING OUR FEELINGS] I want to go home ngo ⁵ seung ² faan ¹ uk ¹ kei ² 我想返屋企 don't feel well. ngo ⁵ m ⁴ syu ¹ fuk ⁶ 我唔舒服 ngo ⁵ hou ² hoi ¹ sam ¹ 我好開心 am unhappy ngo ⁵ hou ² m ⁴ hoi ¹ sam ¹ 我好開心 am angry ngo ⁵ hou ² m ⁴ hoi ¹ sam ¹ 我好哪 ngo ⁵ hou ² nau ¹ 我好哪 lam sleepy ngo ⁵ hou ² ngaan ⁵ fan ³ 我好眼瞓 ngo ⁵ seung ² ham ³ 我想喊 like(sleeping / play video games / a person etc.) ngo ig jung ¹ yi ³ (fan ³ gaau ³ /我鍾意 (瞓覺/ 你)	Where is the nearest restroom?	fu ⁶ gan ⁶ bin ¹ dou ³ yau ⁵ sai ² sau ² gaan ¹ /chi ³	so ² ?
I don't speak Cantonese ngo ⁵ m ⁴ sik ¹ gong ² gwong ² dung ¹ wa ⁶ 我晤識講廣東話 I speak a little Cantonese ngo ⁵ sik ¹ gong ² siu ² siu ² gwong ² dung ¹ wa ⁶ 我識講少少廣東話 I speak Cantonese fluently ngo ⁵ di ¹ gwong ² dung ¹ wa ⁶ hou ² lau ⁴ lei ⁶ ga ³ !我d廣東話好流利嫁 [SHARING OUR FEELINGS] I want to go home ngo ⁵ seung ² faan ¹ uk ¹ kei ² 我想返屋企 付on't feel well. ngo ⁵ m ⁴ syu ¹ fuk ⁶ 我唔舒服 由ppy ngo ⁵ hou ² hoi ¹ sam ¹ 我好開心 由m unhappy ngo ⁵ hou ² m ⁴ hoi ¹ sam ¹ 我好哪儿 和m angry ngo ⁵ hou ² nau ¹ 我好哪 由m sleepy ngo ⁵ hou ² nau ¹ 我好哪 中期心 和m sleepy ngo ⁵ seung ² ham ³ 我想喊 人妻眼園 中國 ngo jung ¹ yi ³ (fan ³ gaau ³ /我鍾意 (剛覺/ 你)		附近邊到有洗手間/廁所	
I don't speak Cantonese ngo ⁵ m ⁴ sik ¹ gong ² gwong ² dung ¹ wa ⁶ 我晤識講廣東話 I speak a little Cantonese ngo ⁵ sik ¹ gong ² siu ² siu ² gwong ² dung ¹ wa ⁶ 我識講少少廣東話 I speak Cantonese fluently ngo ⁵ di ¹ gwong ² dung ¹ wa ⁶ hou ² lau ⁴ lei ⁶ ga ³ !我d廣東話好流利嫁 [SHARING OUR FEELINGS] I want to go home ngo ⁵ seung ² faan ¹ uk ¹ kei ² 我想返屋企 付on't feel well. ngo ⁵ m ⁴ syu ¹ fuk ⁶ 我唔舒服 和appy ngo ⁵ hou ² hoi ¹ sam ¹ 我好開心 和am unhappy ngo ⁵ hou ² m ⁴ hoi ¹ sam ¹ 我好哪儿 和am angry ngo ⁵ hou ² nau ¹ 我好哪儿 和am sleepy ngo ⁵ hou ² nau ¹ 我好哪儿 和go ⁵ hou ² ngan ⁵ fan ³ 我好眼瞓 want to cry ngo ⁵ seung ² ham ³ 我想喊 (瞓覺/ like(sleeping / play video games / a person etc.) / da ² gei ¹ / nei ⁵) 打機/ 你)			
I speak a little Cantonese ngo ⁵ sik ¹ gong ² siu ² siu ² gwong ² dung ¹ wa ⁶ 我識講少少廣東話 ngo ⁵ di ¹ gwong ² dung ¹ wa ⁶ hou ² lau ⁴ lei ⁶ ga ³ !我 d 廣東話好流利嫁 [SHARING OUR FEELINGS] I want to go home ngo ⁵ seung ² faan ¹ uk ¹ kei ² 我想返屋企 我想这屋企 的don't feel well. ngo ⁵ m ⁴ syu ¹ fuk ⁶ 我唔舒服 和appy ngo ⁵ hou ² hoi ¹ sam ¹ 我好開心 和angry ngo ⁵ hou ² m ⁴ hoi ¹ sam ¹ 我好哪 和 angry ngo ⁵ hou ² nau ¹ 我好哪 和 sleepy ngo ⁵ hou ² ngaan ⁵ fan ³ 我好眼瞓 want to cry ngo ⁵ seung ² ham ³ 我想喊 ngo jung ¹ yi ³ (fan ³ gaau ³ /我鍾意 (關覺/	[BRAGGING ABOUT YOUR CANTO-	PROFICIENCY]	
I speak Cantonese fluently ngo ⁵ di ¹ gwong ² dung ¹ wa ⁶ hou ² lau ⁴ lei ⁶ ga ³ !我d 廣東話好流利嫁 [SHARING OUR FEELINGS] I want to go home ngo ⁵ seung ² faan ¹ uk ¹ kei ² 我想返屋企 I don't feel well. ngo ⁵ m ⁴ syu ¹ fuk ⁶ 我唔舒服 I am happy ngo ⁵ hou ² hoi ¹ sam ¹ 我好開心 I am unhappy ngo ⁵ hou ² m ⁴ hoi ¹ sam ¹ 我好唔開心 I am angry ngo ⁵ hou ² nau ¹ 我好關 I am sleepy ngo ⁵ hou ² ngaan ⁵ fan ³ 我好眼瞓 I want to cry ngo ⁵ seung ² ham ³ 我想喊 I like(sleeping / play video games ngo jung ¹ yi ³ (fan ³ gaau ³ /我鍾意 (瞓覺/	I don't speak Cantonese	ngo ⁵ m ⁴ sik ¹ gong ² gwong ² dung ¹ wa ⁶	我唔識講廣東話
[SHARING OUR FEELINGS]I want to go homengo5 seung² faan¹ uk¹ kei²我想返屋企I don't feel well.ngo5 m⁴ syu¹ fuk⁶我唔舒服I am happyngo5 hou² hoi¹ sam¹我好開心I am unhappyngo5 hou² m⁴ hoi¹ sam¹我好唔開心I am angryngo5 hou² nau¹我好嬲I am sleepyngo5 hou² ngaan⁵ fan³我好眼瞓I want to cryngo5 seung² ham³我想喊I like (sleeping / play video games / a person etc.)ngo jung¹ yi³ (fan³ gaau³ /我鍾意 (瞓覺/ 打機/ 你)	I speak a little Cantonese	ngo ⁵ sik ¹ gong ² siu ² siu ² gwong ² dung ¹ wa ⁶	我識講少少廣東話
I want to go home	I speak Cantonese fluently	ngo ⁵ di ¹ gwong ² dung ¹ wa ⁶ hou ² lau ⁴ lei ⁶ ga	3!我 d 廣東話好流利嫁
I don't feel well. I am happy I am unhappy I am unhappy I am angry I am sleepy I am sleepy I want to cry I like (sleeping / play video games / a person etc.) I don't feel well. I am go ⁵ m ⁴ syu¹ fuk ⁶ Ryf開心 Ryf開心 Ryf吁開心 Ryf吁開心 Ryf吁開心 RyfF開 RyfF開 RyfF開 RyfF開 RyfF開 RyfF開 RyfF開 RyfFR Ryf	[SHARING OUR FEELINGS]		
I am happy ngo ⁵ hou ² hoi ¹ sam ¹ 我好開心 和go ⁵ hou ² m ⁴ hoi ¹ sam ¹ 我好唔開心 和go ⁵ hou ² nau ¹ 我好哪 和go ⁵ hou ² nau ¹ 我好關 和go ⁵ hou ² ngaan ⁵ fan ³ 我好眼瞓 和go ⁵ hou ² ngaan ⁵ fan ³ 我好眼瞓 和go ⁵ seung ² ham ³ 我想喊 和go ⁵ seung ² ham ³ 我想喊 有geing / play video games ngo jung 1 yi 2 (fan 3 gaau 3 / 我鍾意 (剛覺 / 中國 4 geing 1 / neing 5) 打機 / 你)	I want to go home	ngo ⁵ seung² faan¹ uk¹ kei²	我想返屋企
I am unhappy ngo ⁵ hou ² m ⁴ hoi ¹ sam ¹ 我好唔開心 lam angry ngo ⁵ hou ² nau ¹ 我好嬲 lam sleepy ngo ⁵ hou ² ngaan ⁵ fan ³ 我好眼瞓 lwant to cry ngo ⁵ seung ² ham ³ 我想喊 like (sleeping / play video games ngo jung ¹ yi ³ (fan ³ gaau ³ /我鍾意 (瞓覺/ haperson etc.) 打機/ 你)	I don't feel well.	ngo ⁵ m ⁴ syu ¹ fuk ⁶	我唔舒服
I am angry ngo ⁵ hou ² nau ¹ 我好嬲 I am sleepy ngo ⁵ hou ² ngaan ⁵ fan ³ 我好眼瞓 I want to cry ngo ⁵ seung ² ham ³ 我想喊 I like (sleeping / play video games ngo jung ¹ yi ³ (fan ³ gaau ³ /我鍾意 (瞓覺/ da ² gei ¹ / nei ⁵) 打機/ 你)	I am happy	ngo ⁵ hou ² hoi ¹ sam ¹	我好開心
I am sleepy ngo ⁵ hou ² ngaan ⁵ fan ³ 我好眼瞓 l want to cry ngo ⁵ seung ² ham ³ 我想喊 like (sleeping / play video games ngo jung ¹ yi ³ (fan ³ gaau ³ /我鍾意 (瞓覺/	I am unhappy	ngo⁵ hou² m⁴ hoi¹ sam¹	我好唔開心
I want to cry ngo ⁵ seung ² ham ³ 我想喊 I like (sleeping / play video games ngo jung ¹ yi ³ (fan ³ gaau ³ /我鍾意 (瞓覺/	I am angry	ngo⁵ hou² nau¹	我好嬲
I like (sleeping / play video games ngo jung¹ yi³ (fan³ gaau³ /我鍾意 (瞓覺/ da² gei¹ / nei⁵) 打機/ 你)	I am sleepy	ngo ⁵ hou ² ngaan ⁵ fan ³	我好眼瞓
/ a person etc.) da² gei¹ / nei⁵) 打機/ 你)	I want to cry	ngo ⁵ seung ² ham ³	我想喊
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	I like (sleeping / play video games	ngo jung ¹ yi ³ (fan³ gaau³ /我鍾意	(瞓覺/
I miss (someone e.g. you)	/ a person etc.)	da² gei¹ / nei⁵)	打機/ 你)
	I miss (someone e.g. you)	ngo ⁵ hou ² gwa ³ jyu ⁶ (nei ⁵)	我好掛住(你)

Common Phrases 3

English	Yale Romanization		<u>Characters</u>
[SHOPPING PHRASES]	2 4 4 2		
How much is it?	gei ² do ¹ chin ⁴ a ³	1 2.	幾多錢呀?
Cheaper, please?	peng ⁴ di ¹ dak ¹ m ⁴ dak	ˈa³?	平 d 得唔得呀?
So expensive?!	gam³ gwai³?		咁貴?
Very cheap	hou ² peng ⁴	•	好平
Is there any other colors?	yau ⁴ mou ⁵ dai ⁶ yi ⁶ (jek	3/	有有第二(隻/
	jung ²) ngaan ⁴ sik ¹ a ³ ?		種)顏色呀?
What size do you have?	ching ² man ⁶ yau ⁴ mat	•	請問有乜野碼呀?
Excuse me, where is the fitting roo	m?m ⁴ goi ¹ , si ³ san ¹ sat ¹ I	nai ² bin ¹ dou ⁶ a ³ ?	唔該,試身室係邊到呀?
[MEASURE WORD FOR CLOTHI	NG & ACCESSORIES]		
Tops (shirt/t-shirt/sweater/jacket/et/	c.)	gin6	件
Bottoms (dress/skirt/pants/jeans/et	c.)	tiu4	條
Accessories (belt/scarf/tie/necklace	e/underwear)	tiu4	條
Shoes (pair of leather shoes/sanda	lls/boots/high heels)	deui3	對
(if only a single shoe, we use jek3)			
Accessories (socks/gloves/earrings	s)	deui3	對
[IN THE RESTAURANT]			
How many people?	gei ² do ¹ wai ² a ³ ?		幾多位呀?
Table for (# of people), please	m ⁴ goi ¹ (#) wai ²		唔該(#)位
What do you want to eat?	nei ⁵ seung ² sik ⁶ di ¹ ma	t ¹ ye ⁵ a ³ ?	你想食d 乜野呀?
It doesn't matter	mou ⁵ so ² wai ⁶		冇所謂
Any recommend dishes?	yau ⁴ mat ¹ ye ⁵ hou ² gai	³ siu ⁶ a³?	有乜野好介紹呀?
I'd like to orderand	ngo ⁵ seung ² yiu ³ tung	y ⁴ maai ⁴ …	我想叫同埋
May I have a?	m ⁴ goi ¹ yat ¹ (go ³)		唔該一(個)
Check, please?	m ⁴ goi ¹ maai ⁴ daan ¹		唔該埋單
Let me get the bill	dang² ngo⁵ bei² la¹		等我俾啦
Don't fight for it (the bill)	m ⁴ hou ² jaang ¹ la ¹		唔好掙啦
[MEASURE WORD FOR FOOD/D	RINK]		
Bottle	jeun ¹ , ji ¹		樽, 支
Cup, glass	bui ¹		杯
Bowl	wun ²		碗
Dish	dip ⁶		碟
Can	gun ³		罐

Beginner Cantonese Decal Fall 2007

[EXPRESSING YOUR FEELING]

Full baau² 飽 Hungry tou⁵ ngo⁶ 肚餓

Thirsty hau² hot³/ geng² hot³ 口渴/頸渴

^{*}Original Made By Mel Lo & Kelly Lau Fall 2007