Lesson 5: Hobbies

Dialogue 1

Yale Romanization	English Translation
Susan: wei6 David, nei5 cham4yat6 yau5mou5 heui3 cheung3 K a3?	**Susan:** Hey David, did you go to karaoke yesterday?
David: ngo5 mou5 heui3 a3. nei5 ne1?	**David:** I did not go, did you?
Susan: ngo5 dou1 mou5 heui3. nei5 cheung3 gwo3 K mei6 a3?	**Susan**: I also did not go. Have you been to karaoke before?
David: mei3 a3. ngo5 bun2loi4 seung2 heui3 ge3, daan6hai6 ngo5 kam4yat6 m4dak1haan4.	**David**: Nope, never. I originally wanted to go, but I wasn't free yesterday.
Susan: ngo5dei6 ha6 go3 sing1kei4 yat1chat4 heui3, hou2 m4 hou2 a3?	**Susan**: How about we go together next week, does that sound good?
David: hou2 a3! ngo5 yau5 gei2 sau2 go1 seung2 cheung3.	**David**: Ok! There are few songs I want to sing.
Susan: hai6 a4? bin1 gei2 sau2 a3?	**Susan**: Really? Which songs?
David: gei2 sau2 Twins ge3 go1 lo1.	**David:** A few of Twins' songs.
Susan: ha1ha1, nei1 dou1 jung1yi3 Twins a4?! keui5dei6 sik1 m4 sik1 cheung3 go3 ga3?	**Susan:** Haha, you also like Twins?! Do they even know how to sing?
David: m4gan2yiu3. hai6 ngo5 heui3 cheung3 K, m4 hai6 keui5dei6.	**David**: That's not important. I'm the one going to karaoke, not them.
Susan: ai1ya4 sei4 la3. nei5 jung6 cha1 gwo3 keui5dei6!	**Susan**: Oh no! You're even worse than them!

Note: hai6 m4 hai6 is often contracted to hai6 mai6 in conversation

Vocabulary

Yale Romanization	Part of Speech	English Meaning
cheung3	K VO (Verb + Object)	to sing karaoke
dou1	Adv	also
gwo3	Particle	[indicates experience]
bun2loi4	Adv	originally
seung2	V	to want to
sau2	MW	measure for songs
sik1	V	to know (how to)
m4gan2yiu3	Expression	it's not important; it doesn't matter
sei4 la3	Expression	"oh no; damn"
jung6	Adv	still
cha1	Adj	to be bad

Dialogue 2   :: *Leo arrives at the tennis court, where Ben is practicing.* ::

Yale Romanization	English Translation
Leo: wei6 Ben, nei5 dang2-jo2 hou2 noi6 la4?	**Leo:** Hey Ben, did you wait for a long time?
Ben: m4hai6, ngo5 dou1 ngaam1ngaam1 dou3 je1.	**Ben:** Nope, I also just got here.
Leo: nei5 hai2dou6 jou6-gan2 mat1ye5 a3?	**Leo**: What are you doing here?
Ben: mou5mat1ye5, lin6-gan2 bo1 je1.	**Ben**: Nothing much, just practicing tennis.
Leo: gam2 di1 bo2 hai6 bin1 a3?	**Leo**: So where are all the balls?
Ben: da2 saai3 cheut1 gaai1 lo1.	**Ben:** I hit them all out into the street.
Leo: yau5mou5 gaau2 cho3 a3?! nei5 sik1 m4 sik4 da2 ga3?	**Leo:** What the heck?! Do you know how to play?
Ben: gang2hai6 m4 sik1 la1! yu4gwo2 ngo5 sik1 da2 mong5kau4, ngo5 jau6 m4sai2 lin6 la1!	**Ben:** Of course I don't know how. If I knew how to play tennis, I wouldn't need to practice.
Leo: gam2yau6hai6. ngo5 yi4ga1 tung4 nei5 da1 yat1 cheung4 mong5kau4, hou2 m4 hou2 a3?	**Leo:** That's true. How about I play one game (of tennis) with you now, is that ok?

Ben: hou^2…daan^{6}hai^6 ngo^{5}dei^6 mou^3 saai^3 bo^1 la^3, dim^{2}syun^3 a^3?

Ben: ok…but, we're all out of balls, what do we do?

Leo: nei^5 seung^2 m^4 seung^2 heui^3 jap^1 a^3?

Leo: Do you want to go pick (them up)?

> ***Note:*** *hai^2 bin^1 is short for hai^2 bin^{1}dou^6*
>
> 係唔係 is often contracted to 係咪 in conversation. 喺邊 is short for 喺邊度

Vocabulary

Yale Romanization	Part of Speech	English Meaning
dang^2	V	to wait
noi^6	Adj	long (time)
dou^3	V	to arrive
je^1	Particle	[only, just]
hai2dou^6	Expression	to be here; there
gan^2	Particle	[progressive action]
mou^{5}mat^{1}ye^5	Expression	"nothing much"
lin^6	V	to practice
bo^1	N	ball
da^2	V	to hit
cheut^1	V	to go out
gaai^1	N	street
mong^{5}kau^4	N	tennis
m^{4}sai^2	V	no need to
gam^{2}yau^{6}hai^6	Expression	that's right; that's true
cheung^4	MW	measure for sports match, movie showing, theatrical performance
jap^1	V	to pick up

Dialogue 3

Yale Romanization

Fiona: wei^6 Stella, nei^5 dak^{1}haan^4 jung^{1}yi^3 jou^3 di^1 mat^{1}ye^5 a^3?

Stella: ngo^5 jung^{1}yi^3 tai^2-ha^5 lin^{4}juk^{6}kek^6.

Fiona: nei^5 jung^{1}yi^3 bin^1 di^1 kek^{6}jaap^6 a^3?

Stella: yan^{1}wai^4 ni^{1}paai^4 hon^{4}kek^6 hou^2 lau^{4}hang^4, so^{2}yi^5 ngo^5 tai^2-jo^2 hou^2 do^1 hon^{4}kek^6.

Fiona: nei^5 jung^{1}yi^3 bin^1 tou^3 a^3?

Stella: ngo^5 ngaam^{1}ngaam^1 tai^2 yun^4 yat^1 tou^3, giu^{3}jou^6 Long^{6}Maan^{6}Mun^{5}Uk^1.

Fiona: hou^2 m^4 hou^{2}tai^2 a^3?

Stella: chiu^1 hou^{2}tai^2 a^3. nei^5 tai^2-gwo^3 mei^6 a^3?

Fiona: ngo^5 tai^2-gwo^3 yat^1 ci^3, daan^{6}hai^6 ngo^5 gok^{3}dak^1 m^4 hou^{2}tai^2.

> ***Note:*** *hai^2 bin^1 is short for hai^2 bin^{1}dou^6*

English Translation

Fiona: Hey Stella, when you're free what kind of things you do you like to do?

Stella: I like to watch a bit of TV drama series.

Fiona: Which dramas do you like to watch?

Stella: Since Korean dramas have been really popular, I've watched a lot of Korean dramas.

Fiona: Which one do you like?

Stella: I just finished watching one called "Full House."

Fiona: Was it good?

Stella: It was super good! Have you seen it before?

Fiona: I saw it once, but thought it wasn't good.

Vocabulary

Yale Romanization	Part of Speech	English Meaning
kek^{6}jaap^6	N	dramas
hon^{4}kek^6	N	Korean dramas
tai^2	V	to watch; to see
tou^3	MW	measure for sets of things
yun^4	Particle	[indicates a finish or end]
giu^{3}jou^6	V	to be called

Long^{6}Maan^{6}Mun^{5}Uk^1	Proper Noun	"Full House" (a Korean drama)
ci^3	MW	measure for 'a time' (occurrences)
gok^{3}dak^1	V	to think that; to find that

Grammar

1) yau^5/mou^5 + Verb (**Referring to the Past**)

When used in a question or negative statements that refer to the past, the verbs *yau^5/mau^5* 'to have/to not have' functions somewhat like the V + *jo^2* (+*mei^6*) construction that you have learned in the previous lesson. In English, it sometimes translates to "did/did not V". Unlike the V + *jo^2* (+*mei^6*), there is no indication that the event may happen, it simply negates the event.

Examples:

nei^5 *yau^5 mou^5* sik^6 faan^6 a^3?
'Did you eat?

yau^5   (a^3). (here, the *a^3* softens the tone)
'Yes.'

keui^5 gam^{1}jiu^1 *mou^5* seung^{5}tong^4
'I did not go to class this morning'

When used outside the context of a question, the affirmative *yau^5* is used for emphasizing a past event.

kam^{4}yat^6 mou^5 yan^4 heui^3 tai^{2}hei^3.
'Yesterday, no one went to watch movies'

m^{4}hai^6 a^3! ngo^5 *yau^5* heui^5!
'No, I *did* go!'

2) Aspect particle gwo^3 (**Experience**)

The aspect particle *gwo^3* attaches to verbs and indicates that an action has occurred at least once before and suggests the meaning of experience.

Example:

ngo^5 heui^3-*gwo^3* Heung^{1}Gong^2 saam^3 chi^3.
'I have been to Hong Kong three times'

keui^5 da^2-*gwo^3* juk^{1}kau^4 tung^{4}maai^4 mong^{5}kau^4.
'He has played soccer and tennis'

The negative form is usually *mei^6* + Verb + *gwo^3* + Object

ngo^5 mei^6 sik^6-*gwo^3* si^{6}do^{1}be^{1}lei^2
'I have never eaten strawberries'

nei^5 teng^1-*gwo^3* Twins mei^6 a^3?
'Have you every heard of Twins (a pop duo in HK)'

3) Adverbs dou^1 and yau^6 'also'

While both *dou^1* and *yau^6* are both adverbs that mean 'also', they differ on what is being modified.

The adverb *dou^1* modifies the subject of the sentence.

<u>ngo^5</u> hou^2 jung^{1}yi^3 Heung^{1}Gong^2
'I like Hong Kong a lot.'

<u>keui^5 *dou^1*</u> hou^2 jung^{1}yi^3 Heung^{1}Gong^2
'He also likes Hong Kong a lot. '

The adverb *yau^6* modifies the predicate of the sentence.
ngo^5 *yau^6* hou^2 jung^{1}yi^3 Saan^{1}Faan^{4}Si^5
'I also like San Francisco a lot'

keui^5 sik^6-jo^2 leung^5 go^3 ping^{4}gwo^2. keui^5 *yau^6* sik^6-jo^2 saam^1 go^3 chaang^2.
'He ate two apples. He also ate three oranges'

4) Aspect particle *gan^2*   (Progressive On-going Action)
The aspect particle *gan^2* is attached to verb to indicate that the action is in progress, and is similar to the English –*ing* form of verbs.

Sometimes *gan^2* is reinforced by *hai^{2}dou^2* 'to be here, there'
keui^5 *hai^{2}dou^6* gong^2-gan^2 din^{6}wa^2 (*gong^2*: to talk, *din^{6}wa^2*: phone)
'He's talking on the phone'

You can also use *hai^{2}dou^6* when talking about the presence of sometime.
sin^{1}saang^1 *hai^2 m^4 hai^{2}dou^6* a^3? keui^5 yi^{4}ga^1 m^4 *hai^{2}dou^6*
'Is the teacher here' 'He's not here now'

5) Definiteness of Nouns
In Cantonese, you can make nouns definite by adding the corresponding measure word.
Example:

bun^2 syu^1 hai^2 bin^1 a^3?   di^1 yan^4 jau^2 saai^3.
'Where is the book?'   'The people all left'

go^3 sai^{3}lou^6 hou^2 lek^1.   tou^3 hei^3 m^4 hou^{2}tai^2
'The kid is very smart'   'the movie wasn't good'

6) Resultative Complements
In Chinese, verbs often take on a verbal complement, which indicates the result of an action. In English, many times the meaning of what is expressed by the complement is instead encoded in the verb itself, or via other methods. One example of a resultative in English the following sentence: He swept the floor clean. The resultative adjective 'clean' is the result of the action 'sweep'.

In this lesson, the two resultatives are: **(a) V+*saai^3* 'all, completely'** *and* **(b) Verb + *yun^4* 'finished'**

(a) Resultative Complement V + *saai^3* 'all, completely'
The particle *saai^3* is attached to verbs to indicate the quantity 'all'. Note that in Verb-Object compounds, *saai^3* comes after the verb and before the object.

When the verb is intransitive, then the *saai^3* will quantify the subject of the sentence. Example:
di^1 hok^{6}saang^1 fan^3 saai^3 gaau^3 (fan^{3}gaau^3: *to sleep*)
'The students all went to sleep'

When the verb is transitive, then the saai^3 will quantify the object of the sentence.

Example:
keui^3 yam^2 *saai^3* di^1 naai^{5}cha^4 ngo^5 tai^2 *saai^2* ni^{1}di^1 kek^{6}jaap^6
'He drank all the milk tea'   'I watched all these dramas'

(b) Resultative Complement V + *yun^4* 'finished'
The resultative complement *yun^4* is attached to verbs to indicate that an action has been finished or ended. Sometimes it carries the same meaning of the aspect particle *jo^2*, but *yun^4* specifically indicates that some process has finished in its entirety.
Examples:
ngo^5 tai^2 *yun^4* din^{6}si^6 la^3.
'I have finished watching TV.'

keui^1 ngaam^{1}ngaam^1 seung^5 *yun^4* tong^4
 'He just finished class'

7) Final Particle *je^1* 'only; that's all'
The particle *je1* plays down an action or an quantity, and has the meaning of 'just' or 'only'
ngo^5 tai^2-ha^5 *je^1*   yat^1 go^3 jung^{1}tau^4 *je^1*
'I'm only taking a look!'   'It's just one hour!'

8) Aspect particle *ha^5* "do…for a bit/for a while"
The aspect particle *ha^5* is attached to verbs to indicate an action goes on 'for a little bit or little while'. There's no direct English translation.
Examples:
cheung^5-*ha^5* K   da^2-*ha^5* bo^1 yam^2-*ha^5* jau^2
'sing some karaoke'   'play some ball'   'have a drink'

si3-*ha^5*   lam^2-*ha^5*   tai^2-*ha^5*
'give it a try'   'think for a moment'   'take a look'

ngo^5 dak^{1}haan^4 jung^{1}yi^3 haang^4-*ha^5* gaai^1 (*haang^{4}gaai^1*: 'to go out/to shop')
'When I have free time I like to go out and shop a bit.'

9) Forming adjectives with *hou^2* + verb
The word *hou^2* 'good' combines with certain verbs to express the meaning that something is good with respect to a certain activity. This is translated in various ways in English.
Examples:
*hou^2*waan^2 *hou^2*sik^6 *hou^2*tai^2
'fun (to play)'   'delicious (to eat)'   'enjoyable (to watch, to read)'

*hou^2*teng^1 *hou^2*yam^2
'good (to listen to)   'delicious (to drink)'

*hou^2*se^2
'good to write with (i.e.: a pen)'

ni^1 bun^2 syu^1 *hou^2*tai^2 ni^1 go^3 yau^{4}hei^3 *hou^2*waan^2 (*yau^{4}hei^3*: game)
'This book is interesting' 'This game is fun'

ni^1 ji^1 bat^1 *hou^2*se^2 (*ji^1*: MW for stick like objects; *bat^1*: pen)

'This pen is good to write with'

10) Verbal Complement *yun⁴* 'finished V'

The resultative complement yun^4 is attached to verbs to indicate that an action has been finished or ended. Sometimes it carries the same meaning of the aspect particle jo^2, but yun^4 specifically indicates that the action has ended.
Examples:

ngo^5 tai^2 *yun⁴* din^6si^6 la^3. $keui^1$ $ngaam^1ngaam^1$ $seung^5$ *yun⁴* $tong^4$
'I have finished watching TV.' 'He just finished class'

11) Expression …*gok³dak¹* … '…think that…'

This expression indicates that opinion of the subject, and can be directly translated into the English as 'to think that…', 'to find that…'
Examples:

nei^3 gok^3dak^1 dim^2 a^3?
'How do you find it?/What do you think of it?"

$keui^5$ gok^3dak^1 m^4 hou^2waan^2.
'He thinks (it's) not fun'

Hobbies

play ball (*hit the ball*)	da^2 bo^1
~basketball	da^2 laam^4 kau^4
~baseball	da^2 paang^5 kau^4
~volleyball	da^2 paai^4 kau^4
~football	da^2 mei^5 sik^1 juk^1 kau^4
~ping pong	da^2 bing^1 bam^1 bo^1
~tennis	da^2 mong^5 kau^4
~golf	da^2 go^1 yi^5 fu^1 kau^4
~badminton	da^2 yu^{5}mou^{4}kau^4
play soccer (*kick~*)	tek^3 juk^1 kau^4 (tek^3 bo^1)
swimming	yau^4 seui^2
surf	waat^6 long^6
ski	waat^6 syut^3
run	paau^2 bou^6
riding a bike	chaai^2/yaai^2 daan^1 che^1

sing / karaoke	cheung^3 go^1/cheung^3 K
listen to music	teng^1 yam^1 ngok^6
dance	tiu^3 mou^5

play chess (or similar game)	juk^1 kei^2
play video/pc games	da^2 gei^1

shop	maai^5 ye^5
go to the mall	haang^4 gung^1 si^1/seung^1 cheung^4 (also: kwaang^3)
go out (to shop)	haang^4 gaai^2

study/read books	duk^6 syu^1
eat	sik^6 ye^5
drink alcohol	yam^2 jau^2
sleep	fan^3 gaau^3

watch TV	tai^2 din^6 si^6	
~movies	tai^2 hei^6	MW: cheut^1, tou^3
~TV series	kek^6 jaap^6	MW: tou^3
talk on the phone	gong^2 / king^1 din^6 wa^2	

Slang - too excessively:
~talk on phone   *bou^1 din^6 wa^2 juk^1*
~watch videos/series   *bou^1 daai^2/bou^1 kek^6 jaap^6*