

LESSON TRANSCRIPT

# Lower Beginner S1 #1

## Planning a Summer Vacation in Cantonese

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# **1**

## INTRODUCTION

Becky: Hello and welcome to the Lower Beginner series at CantoneseClass101.com. This is season 1, lesson 1, Planning a Summer Vacation in Cantonese. I'm Becky.

Olivia: 哈囉 (haa1 lo3) ! And I'm Olivia!

Becky: Together we'll guide you through the Lower Beginner series.

Olivia: That's right. So get ready and...enjoy!

Becky: Yes, because it's fun to learn Cantonese!

Olivia: And we're here to make your experience easy and productive! Okay, Becky, what are we learning in this lesson?

Becky: In this lesson you'll learn how to use interrogative words to talk about where to go for holidays.

Olivia: The conversation takes place in an apartment in Hong Kong.

Becky: The conversation is between two friends, Karen and Olivia.

Olivia: They're using casual Cantonese.

Becky: Let's listen to the conversation.

## DIALOGUE

Karen: 暑假去邊度玩? (syu2 gaa3 heoi3 bin1 dou6 waan2?)

Olivia: 想去澳門。(soeng2 heoi3 ou3 mun2.)

Karen: 幾時去呀? (gei2 si4 heoi3 aa3?)

Olivia: 未決定。(mei6 kyut3 ding6.)

Becky: Let's hear the conversation one time slowly.

Karen: 暑假去邊度玩? (syu2 gaa3 heoi3 bin1 dou6 waan2?)

Olivia: 想去澳門。(soeng2 heoi3 ou3 mun2.)

Karen: 幾時去呀? (gei2 si4 heoi3 aa3?)

Olivia: 未決定。(mei6 kyut3 ding6.)

Becky: Now let's hear it with the English translation.

Karen: 暑假去邊度玩? (syu2 gaa3 heoi3 bin1 dou6 waan2?)

Becky: Where are you going for summer holiday?

Olivia: 想去澳門。(soeng2 heoi3 ou3 mun2.)

Becky: I want to go to Macau.

Karen: 幾時去呀? (gei2 si4 heoi3 aa3?)

Becky: When are you going?

Olivia: 未決定。(mei6 kyut3 ding6.)

Becky: I haven't decided.

## POST CONVERSATION BANTER

Becky: Is Macau where people in Hong Kong usually go on their holidays?

Olivia: Well, Macau is about a one-hour ferry ride from Hong Kong, so some people like to spend a day or two there for a short trip.

Becky: Where else do they go for short trips?

Olivia: Sometimes they go to the “outlying islands” 離島。(lei4 dou2.)

Becky: Oh! I've heard that Hong Kong has a lot of outlying islands.

Olivia: That's right! The most popular one is called Lamma Island. Many expats prefer to stay there instead of the bustling city center. So gradually it has evolved from a fishing village to a laid-back multicultural community.

Becky: That sounds nice. I'd like to visit there some day. Okay, now onto the vocab.

## VOCAB LIST

Becky: Let's take a look at the vocabulary for this lesson. The first word is..

邊度 (bin1 dou6) [natural native speed]

where

邊度 (bin1 dou6) [slowly - broken down by syllable]

邊度 (bin1 dou6) [natural native speed]

Next:

玩 (wan2, waan2) [natural native speed]

to play

玩 (wan2, waan2) [slowly - broken down by syllable]

玩 (wan2, waan2) [natural native speed]

Next:

幾時 (gei2 si4) [natural native speed]

when

幾時 (gei2 si4) [slowly - broken down by syllable]

幾時 (gei2 si4) [natural native speed]

Next:

想 (soeng2) [natural native speed]

to want

想 (soeng2) [slowly - broken down by syllable]

想 (soeng2) [natural native speed]

Next:

澳門 (ou3 mun2) [natural native speed]

Macau

澳門 (ou3 mun2) [slowly - broken down by syllable]

澳門 (ou3 mun2) [natural native speed]

Next:

未 (mei6) [natural native speed]

yet

未 (mei6) [slowly - broken down by syllable]

未 (mei6) [natural native speed]

And Last:

決定 (kyut3 ding6) [natural native speed]

to decide, decision

決定 (kyut3 ding6) [slowly - broken down by syllable]

決定 (kyut3 ding6) [natural native speed]

## KEY VOCAB AND PHRASES

Becky: Let's take a closer look at the usage of some of the words and phrases from this lesson. What are we starting with?

Olivia: 暑假. (syu2 gaa3.)

Becky: What does each word mean?

Olivia: 暑 (syu2) means “hot (temperature)” or “summer heat”, and 假 (gaa3) means “holiday”.

Becky: So together they mean “summer holiday”. Can you repeat it please?

Olivia: 暑假. (syu2 gaa3.)

Becky: Ok. What’s next?

Olivia: Next is 想. (soeng2.)

Becky: What can you tell us about this?

Olivia: 想 (soeng2) literally means “to think”. However, in most casual situations, it means “to want to” or “to desire”. For example, 想去 (soeng2 heoi3) meaning "to want to go," 想食 (soeng2 sik6) meaning "to want to eat."

Becky: Can you repeat the word for us again? Listeners, repeat after Olivia.

Olivia: 想去 (soeng2 heoi3) [pause] And here’s a sentence - 我想去香港. (ngo5 soeng2 heoi3 hoeng1 gong2.)

Becky: It means “I want to go to Hong Kong.”

Olivia: And another sentence - 我想食春卷. (ngo5 soeng2 sik6 ceon1 gyun2.)

Becky: “I want to eat spring rolls.” Well now that you’ve mentioned it, I really do! Okay, now onto the grammar.

## LESSON FOCUS

Becky: In this lesson, we’ll review the interrogative words we talked about in the Absolute Beginner series. You’re going to see them throughout this series and in the future, so it’s important to build a strong foundation in this category.

Olivia: That’s right.

Becky: In this dialog, we used “where” in the first sentence.

Olivia: Yes, and it’s 邊度. (bin1 dou6.)

Becky: Meaning “Where”

Olivia: Do you remember which other interrogative word also used the word 邊? (bin1 ?)

Becky: Is it “who”?

Olivia: That’s right, we say 邊個. (bin1 go3.) Note that it means “which one” as well as “who”. Please repeat after me, 邊度 (bin1 dou6) [pause]

Becky: “Where”

Olivia: and 邊個 (bin1 go3) [pause]

Becky: “Who”, or “which one”. Now, in the third sentence of the dialog, we hear another interrogative word, “When”.

Olivia: 幾時. (gei2 si4 .)

Becky: Can you break these two characters down?

Olivia: Yes, 幾 (gei2) means “several” or “how much”, while 時 (si4) comes from 時間 (si4 gaan1), which means “time”.

Becky: So together they mean “what time” or “when”.

Olivia: That’s right. 幾 (gei2) is a very handy word to ask questions.

Becky: Can you give us some more examples?

Olivia: Certainly, 幾多 (gei2 do1) means “how many” or “how much”, in which the second character, 多 (do1), means “many”.

Becky: Listeners, please check the lesson notes for a full list of interrogative words and sample sentences. And before we go, we want to remind you that you don’t necessarily have to put the interrogative words at the beginning of the sentence.

Olivia: It’s also common to put them behind the verb. For example: 去邊度. (heoi3 bin1 dou6.)

Becky: literally “to go where”, meaning “Where to go”.

Olivia: and 見邊個. (gin3 bin1 go3.)

Becky: literally “to see who”, meaning “Whom to see”. So now you should be able to pick up the key words in questions and understand whether they are about a place, time, or people.

## OUTRO

Becky: Well listeners, that’s all for this lesson! Thanks for listening, and we’ll see you in the next lesson. Bye!

Olivia: 拜拜 ! ( baai1 baai3 !)