

# Cantonese II

## Lesson 10 – Dream, Life

# 人生目標/理想 jan4 sang1 muk6 biu1/lei5 soeng2

## “life goals/ideal”

結婚 git3 fan1, to marry/marriage

生仔 saang1 zai2, give birth

事業 si6 jip6, career

賺錢 zaan6 cin2, earn money

買樓 maai5 lau2, buy a property

買跑車 maai5 paau2 ce1, buy a sports car

畢業 bat1 jip6, to graduate

追求自由 zeoi1 kau4 zi6 jau4, chase for freedom

周圍去 zau1 wai4 heoi3, go around

學新嘢 hok6 san1 je5, learn new things

發現新事物 faat3 jin6 san1 si6 mat6, discover new things

我想...

ngo5 soeng2...

I want...

我唔想...

Ngo5 m4 soeng2...

I don't want...

# 人生目標/理想 jan4 sang1 muk6 biu1/lei5 soeng2

## “life goals/ideal”

成為作家 sing1 wai4 zok3 gaa1, become a writer

做有錢人 zou6 jau5 cin2 jan4, be a rich man/woman

玩音樂 waan2 jam1 ngok6, play music

出名 ceot1 meng2, be famous

住喺森林 zyu6 hai2 sam1 lam4, live in forest

逃脫 tou4 tyut3, escape

脫苦 tyut3 fu2, escape from pain/suffer

唔做寫字樓工 m4 zou6 se2 zi6 lau4 gung1, not work for office work

有一個花園 jau5 jat1 go3 faa1 jyun2, have a garden

提早退休 tai4 zou2 teoi3 jau1, early retire

我想...

ngo5 soeng2...

I want...

我唔想...

Ngo5 m4 soeng2...

I don't want...

# Conversation Practice – gossip description of personality

**Friend:** 你有啲咩人生目標□? (You have D what life goals gaa?)

Nei5 jau5 di1 jan4 sang1 muk6 biu1 gaa3?

**I:** 我想結婚·生仔·買樓呀。 (I want marry, give birth, buy apartment aa.)

Ngo5 soeng2 git3 fan1, saang1 zai2, maai5 lau2 aa3.

**Friend:** 點解你想結婚·生仔·買樓呀? (Why you want marry, give birth, buy apartment aa?)

Dim2 gaai2 nei5 soeng2 git3 fan1, saang1 zai2, maai5 lau2 aa3?

**I:** 我覺得噉樣開心囉。 (I feel this way happy lo)

Ngo5 gok3 dak1 gam2 joeng2 hoi1 sam1 lo1.

Underline words are for exchangeable options

呀 aa3, aa4, aa5, aa1

(jyutping) aa3 -- [1] final particle used to soften an abrupt question/statement, act as reminder and make emphasis; [2] pause particle in enumerating items

(jyutping) aa4 -- interrogative particle used to get confirmation or clarify a doubt, show skepticism or surprise

(jyutping) aa5 -- interrogative particle used in rhetorical question

(jyutping) aa1 -- variant of 㗎

# Passives

Cantonese passives are signaled by a 畀bei2 phrase similar to the English by phrase. The 畀bei2 phrase (畀bei2 + a noun phrase indicating the agent of the action) occurs before the verb:

啲雪糕畀啲細路仔食咗 di1 syut1 gou1 bei2 di1 sai3 lou6 zai2 sik6 zo2

(*lit.* the ice cream by the children eaten.)

The ice cream was eaten by the children.

本書畀個學生借咗 bun2 syu1 bei2 go3 hok6 saang1 ze3 zo2

The book was borrowed by a student

When the identity of the agent is unknown or left unspecified, the word 人jan4 person or 嘢je5 “thing” is used generically:

我個銀包畀人偷咗 ngo5 go3 ngan4 baau1 bei2 jan6 tau1 zo2

My wallet was stolen (by somebody unspecified).

我畀嘢咬親 ngo5 bei2 je5 ngaau5 can1

I've been bitten (by something unspecified).

# Passives

Friend: 你好嗎?今日點呀?

Nei5 hou2 maa3? gam1 jat6 dim2 aa3?

you good? today how aa?

I: 唉。

□ ○

Aai1. ngo5 gam1 jat6 jau6 bei2 lou5 baan2 diu2.

Sigh...I today again got fucked by boss



我覺得最緊要係...  
ngo5 gok3 dak1 zeoi3 gan2 jiu3  
hai6...  
I think that the most important is...

# 人生哲學 jan4 sang1 zit3 hok6

人一世 物一世*	jan4 jat1 sai3 mat6 jat1 sai3	man one life, object one life
做人做得開心	zou6 jan4 zou6 dak1 hoi1 sam1	have a happy life
尋找自己	cam4 zaau2 zi6 gei2	find/search myself
夠錢生活就足夠	gau2 cin2 sang1 wut6 zau6 zuk1 gau3	“Enough money to live” is enough
不求富貴	bat1 kau4 fu3 gwai3	not look for rich/wealth
愛與和平	oi3 jyu5 wo4 ping4	love and peace
自由	zi6 jau4	freedom
幫人	bong1 jan4	help people
挑戰自己	tiu1 zin3 zi6 gei2	challenge myself
如水	jyu4 seoi2	be water

我覺得最緊要係...

ngo5 gok3 dak1 zeoi3 gan2 jiu3  
hai6...

I think that the most important is...

# 人生哲學 jan4 sang1 zit3 hok6

平等 ping4 dang2 equality

死得眼閉 sei2 dak1 ngaan5 bai3 die with closed eyes (die with no regrets)

有美好回憶 jau5 mei5 hou2 wui4 jik1 have beautiful good memory

唔信宗教 m4 seon3 zung1 gaau3 not believe in religions

唔好人做我又做 m4 hou2 jan4 zou6 ngo5 jau6 zou6 don't others do I also do the same  
(don't just follow what others do)

唔好畀人指手畫腳 m4 hou2 bei2 jan4 zi2 sau2 waak6 goek3 (*lit.* not good let others  
point finger draw feet.) Don't let others tell you want to do.

唔好做工作狂 m4 hou2 zou6 gung1 zok3 kong4 don't be a workaholic



# 挑戰 tiu1 zin3 challenge

要擺脫童年陰影 break away from childhood “shadow” (trauma)

jiu3 Baai2 tyut1 tung4 nin4 jam1 jing2

會畀人批評 wui5 bei2 jan4 pai1 ping4

will be criticised

會畀人罰 wui5 bei2 jan4 fat6

will be punished

要原諒自己 jiu3 jyun4 loeng6 zi6 gei2

need to forgive myself

會失敗 wui5 sat1 baai6,

will fail

會餓死 wui5 ngo6 sei6,

will starve to death

# Conversation Practice – “life idealism/philosophy”

**Friend:** 你有啲咩人生哲學呢? You have D what life goal ne?

Nei5 jau5 di1 me1 jan4 sang1 zit3 hok6 ne1?

**I:** 我覺得做人最緊要係開心。唔好做工作狂。 I think being a person the most important is being happy. Don't be a workaholic.)

ngo5 gok3 dak1 zou6 jan4 zeoi3 gan2 jiu3 hai6 hoi1 sam1. m4 hou2 zou6 gung1 zok3 kong4.

夠錢生活就足夠。有美好回憶。死得眼閉。 enough money to live is enough. Have a beautiful memory. Die with eyes closed.

gau2 cin2 sang1 wut6 zau6 zuk1 gau3. sei2 dak1 ngaan5 bai3

**Friend:** 你覺得有咩挑戰? you think what challenges (you will come across)?

Nei5 gok3 dak1 jau5 me1 tiu1 zin3?

**I:** 我覺得可能會餓死。 I think perhaps will starve to death.

Ngo5 gok3 dak1 ho2 nang4 wui5 ngo6 sei6.

Underline words are for exchangeable options

## Movie <<激戰>>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5oFEaoUoM3M>

0:55-1:22

我呢廿幾年乜都冇做過呀!

I these 20+ years have done nothing aa!

Ngo5 ni1 jaa6 gei2 nin4 mat1 dou1 mou5 zou6 gwo3 aa3!

我唔想到熄燈嗰陣,我連一件值得記得嘅事都冇呀! I don't want when "my light" switches off, I don't even remember one thing.

Ngo5 m4 soeng2 dou3 sik1 dang1 go2 zan6, ngo5 lin4 jat1 gin6 zik6 dak1 gei3 dak1 ge3 si6 dou1 mou5 aa3!

我仲有嘢輸咩? I still can lose?

Ngo5 zung6 jau5 je5 syu1 me1?

唔緊要啦! 贏又好,輸又好。啲嘢都返唔到嚟啦。 not important la! No matter win, or less. Thins won't come back la

M4 gan2 jiu3 laa3! Jeng4 jau6 hou2·syu1 jau6 hou2. di1 je5 dou1 faan1 m4 dou2 lei4 laa3.

其實我同阿齊都一樣之嘛。只係想為自己做返一件事啫。 in fact, I and Ar Chai also only the same. Only want to do one thing for ourselves

Kei4 sat5 ngo5 tung5 aa3 cai4 dou1 jat1 joeng6 zi1 maa3. zi2 hai6 soeng2 wai4 zi6 gei2 zou6 faan1 jat1 gin6 si6 ze1

之嘛 zi1 maa3 – (model particle) only; that's all

啫 ze1 - [final particle] merely, only, that's all (used mainly to play down a fact and convey a sense of reassurance)

值得 zik6 dak1 – worthy

# Song list

林奕匡 Phil - 高山低谷 (about pushing through the setback in life)

<https://youtu.be/VqnpLbr1zJs>

RubberBand - 發現號 (about discovery of the unknowns)

[https://youtu.be/wZD\\_qQ81l3Q](https://youtu.be/wZD_qQ81l3Q)

Mr. - 人一世物一世 (about YOLO)

<https://youtu.be/eYKyQn2W2tw>

方皓玟 - 你是你本身的傳奇 (you are the legend yourself. kind to summarize some common hardships in hong kong life and encourage audience)

<https://youtu.be/tmmlIjsizc>

謝安琪 Kay Tse - 山林道 (About fighting challenges and stick to the original initiatives)

<https://youtu.be/92umHyOJ8Yg>

Beyond - 海闊天空 (about the process and challenges while chasing for freedom, peace and love)

<https://youtu.be/Px4VMWBEmuU>

LMF - 大懶堂 (one of the legendary rap in Hong Kong. About being lazy. Do nothing.)

<https://youtu.be/jECZQPP4azc>



In “mandarin” Chinese,  
Talk about how to escape  
from anxiety in life.  
One of the most famous  
Cantonese pop lyrics writer

心靈雞湯? 林夕的逆向思考人生 | Chicken Soup Good for the Soul? Think Again | 林夕 Lin Xi | TEDxTaipei

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4HLSBvlv0Ug>