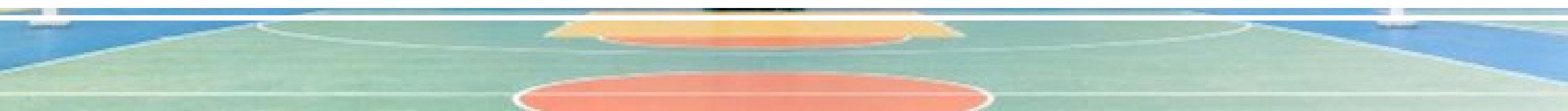# Cantonese I
Week 6

Quick check/revision

1. how are you?
2. what is your name?
3. adjective (happy, cute, beautiful)
4. possession word (my friend, my teacher, my student, my classmate, my doctor)
5. verb to be
6. negation to verb
7. negation to adjective
8. where you from
9. yes/no question

Tone check

diu 鵰diu1　⬚ diu2　吊diu3　　diu4　　　diu5　　　調diu6

Hai 闗hai1　　喺hai2　　hai3　　　兮hai4　　匸hai5　係hai6

gau 鳩gau1　九gau2...

cat 七cat1　...　⬚ cat6

soeng　　想

zaap 習

gwaan 慣

sei 四

zung 鍾

fan 飯

Six Tones	bc① Marks	Pitch
1	–	high level
2	′	high rising
3	°	mid level
4	`	low falling
5	˅	low rising
6	˗	low level

① The diacritics are devised by the author, Chow Bun Ching

Auxiliary verbs

			Negation +唔 m4
會	wui5	will, would	☐ 唔會
可以	ho2 ji5	can, may	☐ 唔可以
識	sik1	know (how to)	☐ 唔識
應該	jing1 goi1	should, ought to	☐ 唔應該
需要/要	seoi1 jiu3/jiu3	want, need	☐ 唔需要/唔要
想	soeng2	want to	☐ 唔想

verb

Question phrases

食乜嘢? Sik6 mat1/mi1/me1 je5? (eat what things?)

做乜嘢? Zou6 mat1 je5? (do what things?)

聽乜嘢? Teng1 mat1 je5? (hear what things?)

睇乜嘢? Tai2 me1 je5? (see what things?)

去邊度? Heoi3 bin1 dou6? (go where?)

邊個? Bin1 go3? (who?)

點解? Dim2 gaai2 (how explain? ⇒ why?)

點樣? Dim2 joeng2? (how?)

幾時? Gei2 si4? (how time ⇒ when?)

幾多? Gei2 do1? (how many?)

Combination: auxiliary verb x question phrase

你會食乜嘢? Nei5 wui5 sik6 mat1 je5? (you will eat what thing?)

你會去邊度? Nei5 wui5 heoi3 bin1 dou6? (you will go where?)

我可以食乜嘢? Ngo5 ho2 ji5 sik6 mat1 je5? (I can eat what thing?)

我可以去邊度? Ngo5 ho2 ji5 heoi3 bin1 dou6? (I can go where?)

我可以點樣? ngo5 ho2 ji5 dim2 joeng2? (I can how? -> "what should I do?")

你可以幾時? Nei5 ho2 ji5 gei2 si4? (you can when?)

你識唔識佢係邊個? Nei5 sik1 m4 sik1 keoi5 hai6 bin1 go3? (you know or not know he/she is who?)

你識唔識點解? Nei5 sik1 m4 sik1 dim2 gaai2? (you know or not know why?)

你識講乜嘢話? Nei5 sik1 gong2 mat1 je5 waa2? (you know speak what language?)

Combination: auxiliary verb x question phrase

我應該坐乜嘢車? Ngo5 jing1 goi1 co5 mat1 je5 ce1? (I should sit what thing car?)

我應該去邊度? Ngo5 jing1 goi1 heoi3 bin1 dou6? (I should go where?)

我應該點樣? Ngo5 jing1 goi1 dim2 joeng2? (I should how?)

我應該要幾多杯? Ngo5 jing1 goi1 jiu3 gei2 do1 bui1? (I should need how many cups?)

你要一個乜菜? Nei5 jiu3 jat1 go3 mat1 coi3? (you need one piece what "vegetable" dish?)

你要去邊度? Nei5 jiu3 heoi3 bin1 dou6? (you need go where?)

你想點樣? Nei5 soeng2 dim2 joeng2? (you want how?)

你想幾多錢? Nei5 soeng2 gei2 do1 cin2? (you want how much money? -> "how much do you want to pay for this item?")

kěoi gām nìn géi (dō) sěoi åa?
佢　今　年　幾（多）歲　呀？
(How old is he this year?)

kěoi gām nìn săp sěi sěoi.
佢　今　年　十　四　歲。
(He is fourteen this year.)

* Note that it is unnecessary to use the verb 'to be' when talking about one's age.

			(gām nìn) （今　年） *(this year)*	géi (dō) 幾（多） *(how many)*	sěoi 歲 *(years old)*	åa? 呀？ *[Pt]*
Q:	*Subject*					

		(gām nìn) （今　年） *(this year)*	*Number*	sěoi. 歲 *(years old)*
A:	*Subject*			

kěoi 佢 *(he, she)*

1. jāt	一	*(one)*	11. săp jāt	十一	*(eleven)*
2. lŏeng*	兩	*(two)*	12. săp jǐ	十二	*(twelve)*
3. sāam	三	*(three)*	13. săp sāam	十三	*(thirteen)*
4. sěi	四	*(four)*	14. săp sěi	十四	*(fourteen)*
5. nǧ	五	*(five)*	15. săp nǧ	十五	*(fifteen)*
6. lŭk	六	*(six)*	16. săp lŭk	十六	*(sixteen)*
7. cāt	七	*(seven)*	17. săp cāt	十七	*(seventeen)*
8. bǎat	八	*(eight)*	18. săp bǎat	十八	*(eighteen)*
9. gáu	九	*(nine)*	19. săp gáu	十九	*(nineteen)*
10. săp	十	*(ten)*	20. jǐ săp	二十	*(twenty)*

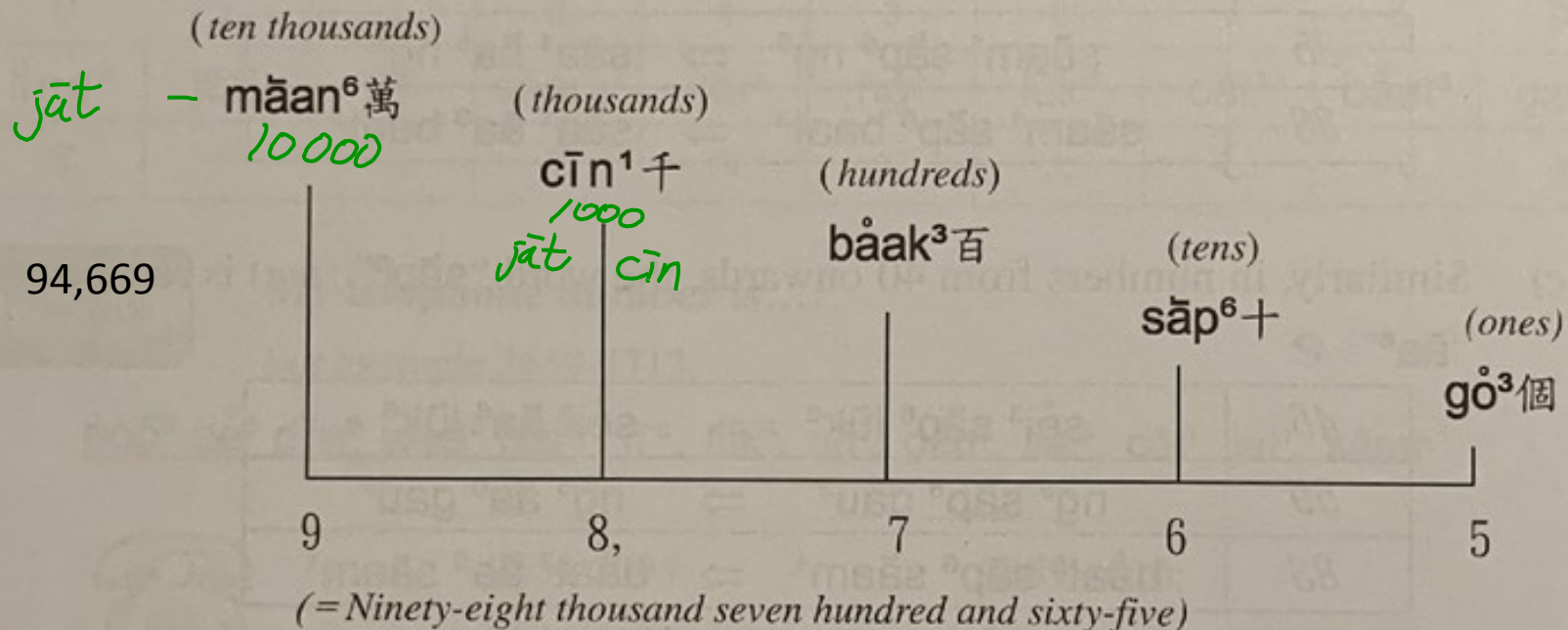* Note that "lŏeng sěoi" is used instead of "jǐ sěoi" when saying two-year-old.

16

20 ji6 sap6
21 ji6 sap6 jat1
22 ji6 sap6 ji6
23 ji6 sap6 saam1
24 ji6 sap6 sei3
25 ji6 sap6 ng5
26 ji6 sap6 luk6
27 ji6 sap6 cat1
28 ji6 sap6 baat3
29 ji6 sap6 gau2

Key for tones

sāam¹ wún² sǎi³ ngàu⁴ nǎam⁵ m̌īn⁶

7. Counting thousands and above ☉ CD -T28

In Chinese, "cīn¹ 千" is used to indicate thousands and there is an additional unit "māan⁶ 萬" to indicate ten thousand.

Here is a chart to show the Chinese counting system: ☉

(ten thousands)

~~jāt~~ ~~—~~ **māan⁶ 萬** *(thousands)*
10000

cīn¹ 千 *(hundreds)*
1000

jāt cīn **bǎak³ 百** *(tens)*

94,669 **sǎp⁶ 十** *(ones)*

gǒ³ 個

9	8,	7	6	5

(= Ninety-eight thousand seven hundred and sixty-five)

25	601	7601
39	566	9566 Cīn
42	913	6913
11	384	5384
54	104	8104
89	220	1220
67	477	2477
71	852	3852