

CHAPTER 1

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畫鬼臉 waak6 gwai2 lim5

Drawing Devil Faces

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Chinese	Pronunciation	Meaning	Spoken Cantonese
畫	waak6	draw	
鬼	gwai2	devil, ghost,	
臉	lim5	face	
比	bei2	compare	
比一比	bei2 jat1 bei2	See Grammar Note 1	bei2 haa6 (比一下)
哪個	naa5 go3	which, which one	bin1 go3 (邊個)
最	zeoi3	most	
像	zoeng6	to resemble, to look like	ci5 (似)
有的	jau5 dik1	some	yau5 di1 (有啲)
上	soeng5	on	
塗	tou4	paint, smear (here it means to colour in the face)	
塗得	tou4 dak1	See Grammar Note 2	
黑	hak1	black	
又	jau6	again	
黑又黑	hak1 jau6 hak1	very black, totally black	hou2 hak1 (好黑)
舌頭	sit6 tau4	tongue	lei6 (脷)

伸	san1	stick out, extend	
長	coeng4	long	
眼睛	ngaan5 zing1	eye	
鼻子	bei6 zi2	nose	bei6 (鼻)
擠	zai1	squeeze, squash	
堆	deoi1	pile	
擠一堆	zai1 yat1 deoi1	squash together	
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我	ngo5	I, me	
的	dik1	See Grammar Note 3	ge3 (嘅)
是	si6	is (am, are etc.)	hai6 (係)
貪吃	taam1 hek3	greedy (for food)	wai6 sik6 (為食)
張着	zoeng1	open, stretch	
張着	zoeng1 zoek6	See Grammar Note 4	maak3 hoi1(擘開)
大	daai6	big	
嘴巴	zeoi2 baa1	mouth	hau2 (口)
拿	naa4	hold, take	lo2 (攞)
拿着	naa4 zoek6	See Grammar Note 4	lo2 zyu6 (攞住)
炸	zaa3	fried, fry	
雞	gail	chicken	
腿	teoi2	leg	bei2 (髀)
猜	caai1		gu2 (估)
猜一猜	caai1 jat1 caai1	See Grammar Note 1	gu2 haa6 (估一下)
她	taa1	she, her	koei5 (佢)
誰	seoi4	who?	bin1 go3 (邊個)
噓	heoi1	sssh, hush	
不要	bat1 jiu3	don't	m4 hou2 (唔好)

告訴	gou3 sou3	tell (someone)	wa6 bei2 (someone) teng1 (話俾 ... 聽)
妹妹 我妹妹	mui6 mui6	younger sister	

Grammar Notes

1. 比一比: "Compare (them)" When you say a verb twice like this with 一 (yat1) in between, it means that the action is done once, or is done it for a short time. There is another example on p.3: 猜一猜 (caai1 jat1 caai1) "have a guess" or "make a guess". Another similar common expression is 看一看 (hon3 yat1 hon3) "have a look", "take a look". In Cantonese, we usually just say haa6 (下) after the verb.
2. 塗得: When you put 得 (dak1) after a verb, it means that what comes next will be the result of the action. So here it means that the student painted the face (so that it was) black.
3. 的 (dik1) like ge3 ((嘅) in spoken Cantonese, tells us that the word or phrase that come before it describes the noun that follows it. So 我畫的臉 means "the face that I drew". If it is obvious what is being referred to, the noun itself can be left out. So 我畫的 by itself means "the one (i.e. the face) that I drew".
4. When you put 着 (zoek6) after a verb, it means that the action or state continues for a while. So 張着大嘴巴 (zoeng1 zoek6 daai6 zeoi2 baa1) means "opening his mouth wide" or "with his mouth open wide" and 拿着炸雞腿 (naa4 zoek6 zaa3 gai1 teoi2) means "holding a fried chicken leg".

Drawing Devil Faces

Make a comparison,
Which one is most like a devil?
Some of them have faces painted all black,
some of them are sticking their tongues right out,
some of them have eyes and mouth squashed together

The one I have drawn is a greedy devil,
opening his mouth wide,
holding a fried chicken leg,
Have a guess,
who is she?
Sssh -----
Don't tell my little sister.

