

## CHAPTER 2

全自動功課機 cyun4 zi6 dung6 gung1 fo3 gei1  
A Completely Automatic Homework Machine

Quizlet Flashcards for this chapter can be found here:

[https://quizlet.com/\\_8ayjpr?x=1qqt&i=2f4qkn](https://quizlet.com/_8ayjpr?x=1qqt&i=2f4qkn)

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Chinese	Pronunciation	Meaning	Spoken Cantonese
全	cyun4	Fully, completely	
自動	zi6 dung6	Automatic	
功課	gung1 fo3	Homework	
個	go3	See Grammar Note 1	
機	gei1	Machine	
秘密	bei3 mat6	Secret	
發明	faat3 ming4	Invent	
了	liu5	See Grammar Note 2	zo2 (咗)
部	bou6	See Grammar Note 1	
真	zan1	Really	
有	jau5	There is	
那麼	naa5 mo1	Such (a)	gam2 jeung2 ge3 (咁樣嘅)
神奇	san4 kei4	Miraculous, magical	
只	zi2	Only	

要	jiu3	Have to	
把	baa2	See Grammar Note 3	zoeng1 (將)
作業	zok3 jip6	Homework assignment	gung1 fo3 (功課)
放	fong3	Put	
進	zeon3	Enter	
去	heoi3	Go	
放進去	fong3 zeon3 heoi3	Put into (the machine)	jap6 (入)
按	on3	Press	gam6 (摵)
一下	jat1 haa6	Once, one time	
開關	hoi1 gwaan1	On-off switch	
再	zoi3	More, again	
多	do1	Much, Many	
難	naan4	Hard, difficult	
馬上	maa5 soeng5	Immediately	zik1 hak1 (即刻)
整齊	zing2 cai4	Neat, neatly	
整整齊齊	zing2 zing2 cai4 cai4	See Grammar Note 4	
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哦	ngo4	Oh!, Ah!	
想	soeng2	Want	
試	si3	Try	
試一試	si3 jat1 si3	Have a try (See Chapter 1 Grammar Note 1)	si3 ha6 (試下)

沒	mut6	There isn't any ... There's no ... (opposite of 有)	Mou5 (冇)
問題	man6 tai4	Problem	
今天	gam1 tin1	Today	gam1 jat6 (今日)
晚上	maan5 soeng5	Evening	je6 maan5 (夜晚)
請	cing2	Please	m4 goi1 唔該
悄悄	ciu2 ciu2	Quietly	zing6 gai1 gai1 gam3 (靜雞雞咁)
來	loi4	Come	
到	dou3	To	
夢	mung6	Dream	
裏 來到我夢裏	lei5 loi4 dou3 ngo5 mung6 lei5	In	jap6 lei4 ngo5 ge3 mung6 (入嚟我嘅 夢)

### Grammar Notes

1. 一個秘密; 一部全自動功課機: When we count something in Chinese we need to put what is called a **measure word** between the number and the noun (a bit like “one piece of cake” in English).

個 (go3) is the most common measure word. So 一個秘密 means “one secret” or simply “a secret”.

部 (bou6) in the next line is the measure word used for machines, as well as for books and films, so 一部 ....機 means “a ....machine”.

2. 我發明了: When you put 了 after an action verb like 發明 (‘invent’), it means that the action of the verb has been done or completed. So 我發明了一部全自動功課機 means “I **have invented** a fully automatic homework machine”. In Cantonese, we would say faat3 ming4 zo2 (發明 咗).

3. 把 is used when we put the object in front of the verb instead of after it. In 把作業放進去, the object 作業 (“assignment”) is in front of the verb 放 (“put”) so its has 把 in front of it.
4. 整整齊齊: repeating each character of a word in this way makes its meaning slightly stronger.

### Translation

#### A Fully Automatic Homework Machine

Let me tell you a secret,  
I have invented a fully automatic homework machine.  
A fully automatic homework machine?  
Is there really such a miraculous thing?  
You need only put in your assignment,  
press the on-off button,  
and however difficult the homework is,  
it will immediately do it very neatly.  
Oh, you want to try it,  
no problem, no problem,  
this evening, please quietly come into my dreams.