

Lesson 23
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月亮的新衣裳
jyut6 loeng6 dik1 san1 ji1 soeng4
The Moon's New Clothes

Quizlet flashcards for the vocabulary shown at the bottom of pages 38 and 39 can be found here:

https://quizlet.com/_9zco3w?x=1qqt&i=2f4qkn

Chinese	Pronunciation	Meaning	Spoken Cantonese
月亮	jyut6 loeng6	moonlight, moon	
新	san1	new	
衣裳	ji1 soeng4	clothes	saam1 (衫)
熊	hung4	bear	
叔叔	suk1 suk1	uncle	
給	kap1	for	bei2 (俾)
姐姐	ze2 ze2	(elder) sister	ze4 ze1(姐姐)
做	zou6	make	zing2 (整)
件	gin6	item (a measure word)	
第一次	dai6 jat1 ci3	first time	
試	si3	try	
穿	cyun1	wear (clothes)	zoek3 (着)
試穿	si3 cyun1	try on (clothes)	si3 haa5 zoek3 (試下着)
可	ho2	short for 可是 “but”	daan6 hai6 (但係)

太	taai3	too	
寬	fun1	wide, loose (of clothes)	fut3 (闊)
奇怪	kei4 gwaai3	strange, think something is strange	
明明	ming4 ming4	clearly	
按照	on3 ziu3	according to	
量度	loeng4 dok6	measure	
尺寸	cek3 cyun3	feet and inches, size	
怎麼	zam2 mo1	how	dim2 (點)
可能	ho2 nang4	possible	
合身	hap6 san1	fit (the body)	ngaam1 san1 (啱身)
只好	zi2 hou2	can only, have to	wai4 jau5 (唯有)
另	ling6	in addition, another	
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過	gwo3	pass	
過了幾天	gwo3 liu5 gei2 tin1	after a few days (had passed)	gwo3 zo2 gei2 jat6 (過咗幾日)
卻	koek3	yet, however	faan2 ji4 (反而)
窄	zaak3	tight (of clothes)	
這才	ze5 coi4	only after this, only then	ne1 go3 si4 hau6 sin1 (呢個時候先)
想起	soeng2 hei2	remember, recall	lam2 hei2 (諗起)
形狀	jing4 zong6	shape	
並不	bing6 bat1	not at all	bing6 m4 hai6 (並唔係)
每天	mui5 tin1	every day	mui5 jat6 (每日)
一樣的	jat1 joeng6 dik1	the same	jat1 joeng6 ge3 (一樣嘅)
農曆	nung4 lik6	the lunar calendar	

初三, 四的日子	co1 saam1 sei3 dik1 jat6 zi2	the third and fourth days (of each lunar month)	co1 saam1 sei3 ge3 jat6 zi2(初三, 四嘅日子)
像	zoeng6	like	hou2 ci5 (好似)
彎	waan1	curved	
船	syun4	boat	
變成	bin3 sing4	change into, become	
半圓形	bun3 jyun4 jing4	semicircle	
圓	jyun4	round, full (of the Moon)	jyun4 jing4 (圓形)
鏡子	geng3 zi2	mirror	geng3 (鏡)
缺 月缺	kyut3 jyut6 kyut3	lacking the moon is waning, i.e. when the moon is less than a full moon	
當然	dong1 jin4	of course	gang2 hai6 (梗係)

The Moon's New Clothes

Uncle Bear made some new clothes (*see note below) for Sister Moon.

When the Moon tried on the clothes for the first time, they were too big and too loose. Uncle Bear thought it very strange and said, "I clearly made the clothes according to the measurements I took, how is it possible that they do not fit?" All he could do was to make another new set for the Moon.

A few days later, the Moon came to try on the clothes again, but this time the new clothes were too small and tight.

Uncle Bear only then recalled that the shape of the Moon is not the same every day. On the third and fourth days of the lunar calendar, the Moon is like a curved boat. On the seventh and eighth day of the lunar calendar, the Moon becomes a semicircle, and on the fifteenth day of the lunar calendar, the Moon is like a round mirror. Sometimes the Moon wanes, and sometimes it is full. If the Moon tries on loose clothes when it is waning, and tight clothes when it is full, of course they don't fit.

*The Chinese says 一件衣裳. One item of clothing. But in English, we don't usually talk about 'one item of clothing' and there is no singular word clothes. In English we always use the plural noun 'clothes', or we say more clearly 'a new shirt' or a 'new top'. So we have translated 衣裳 as 'clothes' in this story.