

CHAPTER 17

跟家人一起讀書 gan1 gaa1 jan4 jat1 hei2 duk6 syu1 Reading with my family

Quizlet Flashcards for the vocabulary in this chapter can be found here:

https://quizlet.com/_7xhmvq?x=1qqt&i=2f4qkn

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跟	gan1	with
家人	gaa1 jan4	family
一起	jat1 hei2	together
讀書	duk6 syu1	read books
晚飯	maan5 faan6	dinner
後	hau6	after
坐	co5	sit
在	zoi6	at
和	wo4	and
身旁	san1 pong4	literally: body side at someone's side
聽	ting3	listen to
講	gong2	talk, tell
故事	gu3 si6	stories

扮	baan6	play the part of
野狼	je5 long4	(wild) wolf
很	han2	very *see Grammar note
逗笑	dau6 siu3	funny
小羊	siu2 joeng4	little goat
可愛	ho2 ngoi3	cute
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愛	ngoi3	love to...
童話	tung4 waa6	children's story, fairytale
也	jaa5	also
寓言	jyu6 jin4	fable
現在	jin6 zoi6	now
認識	jing6 sik1	recognise
一些	jat1 se1	some
字	zi6	characters
可以	ho2 ji5	can
跟着	gan1 zyu3	along with, following
自己	zi6 gei2	myself
Paragraph 2		
真	zan1	truly, really, very
快樂	faai3 lok6	happy
啊	aa1	Exclamation: used at the end of a sentence to show enthusiasm

Grammar note

In **verbal Cantonese** we use 好 hou2 before an adjective. Sometimes this is translated as ‘very’ – very tall, very big etc. But usually the meaning of ‘very’ is lost and it’s simply how we make an adjective.

Eg.

好凍	hou2 dung3	(very) cold
好高	hou2 gou1	(very) cute
好靚	hou2 leng3	(very) pretty

In **standard written Chinese**, instead of 好 hou2 we must write 很 han2. It’s used in exactly the same way, being placed before an adjective.

很高	han2 gou1	(very) tall, high
很可愛	han2 ho2 ngoi3	(very) cute
很漂亮	han2 ho2 ngoi3	(very) pretty

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This is talking about the speech radical 言 jin4.
This component is often used in words connected to language.

Eg:

讀	duk6	to read
話	waa6	to say
識	sik1	to know, understand something
講	gong2	to say, talk (this word is used a lot in verbal cantonese)
認	jing6	to recognize

Reading with my family

After dinner, I sit besides my Dad and my Mum, I listen to them telling stories. Dad plays the part of a wolf in a funny way, Mum plays the part of a goat in a cute way. I love listening to children’s stories and also love listening to fables. Now I can recognise some (Chinese) characters, so I can read along with Dad and Mum and I can also read by myself.
Reading with my family makes me really happy!