

LESSON NOTES

Learn Cantonese in Three Minutes #1 Self-Introductions

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GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is Self Introduction in Cantonese

Topic 1: How to Introduce yourself to a single person.

Sentence from the lesson:

'你好，我係Olivia。好高興認識你。'

Nei5 hou2 , ngo5 hai6 Olivia. Hou2 go1 hing3 jing6 sik1 nei5.

"Hi, I'm Olivia. Nice to meet you."

1. You say 你好 *Nei5 hou2* , 我係 *ngo5 hai6*... "Hi, I'm..."
2. Add your name: 你好，我係Olivia。 *Nei5 hou2, ngo5 hai6 Olivia.*
3. Then say 好高興認識你。 *Hou2 go1 hing3 jing6 sik1 nei5.* "Nice to meet you."

Topic 2: How to Introduce yourself to more than one person.

Sentence from the lesson:

'你好，我係Olivia。好高興認識你哋。'

Nei5 hou2, ngo5 hai6 Olivia. Hou2 go1 hing3 jing6 sik1 nei5 dei6.

"Hi, I'm Olivia. Nice to meet you all."

1. 你好，我係Olivia。 has not been changed; 你好，我係 stands in both cases for "Hi, I am."
2. Pay attention to the ending: we went from 你 *Nei5* to 你哋 *Nei5 dei6*. What is changing is the word for "you." In Cantonese, the word "you" is different if it is singular or plural. 你 is singular, and 你哋 is plural.

Language Tip!

When you introduce yourself, it's a good habit to shake hands in Hong Kong. Always introduce yourself to the higher-ranking persons before those of lower rank. In most cases, the person of the highest rank will be the most elder person. If you use the correct sentence with Cantonese speakers, they're definitely going to be impressed!