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Beginner lessons for Grammar

Master Cantonese Grammar Basics for Effective Communication

DEFINITION

> Cantonese grammar involves the rules that govern sentence structure and word usage. Understanding these basics helps you form correct sentences and communicate clearly.

KEY CONCEPTS

Sentence Structure

Cantonese typically follows a Subject-Verb-Object order, similar to English.

Measure Words

Cantonese uses specific measure words for counting nouns, which must match the noun type.

Tones

Cantonese is a tonal language, meaning the pitch of a word can change its meaning.

Particles

Particles are used at the end of sentences to indicate mood or tense.

Questions Formation

Questions often use a specific word order or particles to indicate inquiry.

EXAMPLES

- → □□□ (I love you)
- → □□□ (This book)
- → □□□ ? (How old are you?)

MEMORY TIPS

- ★ Associate measure words with images of the objects they describe.
- ★ Practice tones by singing simple songs to remember their pitch.
- ★ Use flashcards for particles with example sentences to reinforce usage.

COMMON MISTAKES

- ✗ Forgetting to use the correct measure word with nouns.
- ✗ Mixing up tones, leading to different meanings.
- ✗ Incorrectly forming questions without the right particles.

QUICK RECAP

Cantonese grammar is essential for forming correct sentences and effective communication. Focus on sentence structure, measure words, and the importance of tones and particles to improve your skills.