1966

Cantonese

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Submitted by: Jacqueline Bernhardt  
Informant: Virginia Cheng  
Language: Cantonese  
Date: August 2, 1966

1 ngo⁴² ma⁴¹¹ hai⁴³ yat¹ ko² ho² khan³ kck²

my mother is one unit very hard working

ke² loi³¹ yan 2 khoi³¹ yat¹ jo² ca¹ m.to¹

(conn) feminine person she each morning almost

cat¹ tim³ jongs²³ ha³ jau²³ he³¹ can¹

seven hours about already rise body

3 go²² can² ci³² ngo² te² ko² ko² yan³ to³ hai³¹

that time we (pl) that unit one all still

to³ fan² kau²³ 4 khoi³¹ he³ can¹ jo³¹ ci¹ hau²³

sleep she rise body (com) after

cau³¹ jo³ co³ can² fan¹ pe³² ngo² de² sck³

then make early morning meal for I (pl) to eat

5 ca¹ m to¹ cat¹ tim¹ pun³ khoi³¹ cau³¹ kiu²³

about seven-thirty she then call

ngo te² yat ko² ko² he¹ can¹ hoï³¹ fan³² ho² hau²³

I (pl) one unit individ-rise body to go return school

6 he¹ can¹ ko² jau² si³² jo³ fan³ yi² kheing²

rest body that time morning meal already

jo³² he² sai²³ la³ 7 ngo² te² cau³¹ co²³ fan³²

made very totally I (pl) then return

ho² hau²³ ci¹ hau²³ ma⁴¹¹ hoi³¹ ci³ jo³¹ m

school after Mother begins make noon

fan³ 8 jo³ m fan³ ci¹ cin³ khoi³¹ yio³² sin¹

meal make noon meal before she has to first

hoï³¹ mail¹ song³ 9 kai³¹ si²³ le³¹ hoi³¹ o¹ ke²

go buy food market go from house

17
ca¹ m to¹ yio³² hang³ seng²³ sap³ m fan¹ jo¹ about has to walk for fifteen minutes
10 khoi³¹ hang³ hoi³¹ kai³¹ si²³ mail song³ mail she walks to market buy food buy
ngo² te² cm yio³² sek³ ma¹ ye² ge³ coil¹
I (pl) noon meal have to eat what (conn) dishes
11 fan¹ le³ jo³ jo³¹ ca¹ m to¹ sap¹ i² tim²
tim² return make (com) almost twelve
la¹ 12 kam¹ ngo² te² sap¹ i² tim² seng²³ ha³
Ø then I (pl) twelve about
fan³² le³ sek² ngan¹ 13 sek² yan²³ ngan¹ ci¹
return to eat dinner eat finish dinner after
hau²³ ko² ko² yan³ yun²³ ce¹ jo³¹ hoi³¹ fan³²
that unit person again leave (com) to go return
ho² hau²³ 14 tan¹ to³ ko² ko² yan³ ce¹ jo³¹
school wait until that unit person leave (com)
ci¹ hau²³ ma³ ma¹ hoi³¹ ci³ sai³¹ sam¹ 15 yat¹
after mother begins wash clothes every
yat² ngo² te² to³ yau³¹ yat¹ tai²³ toi³¹ u²
day I (pl) all have one big bunch dirty
lat² tat³ ke² sam¹ pe²³ khoi³¹ hoi³² sai³¹
(conn) clothes for her to wash
16 ca³ m to¹ se² tim² jong³ la¹ ngo² te² ko²
almost four Ø I (pl) that
ko² yan³ yau³¹ yau³ ho² hau²³ fan¹ le³ o¹ ke²
unit person again from school return house
then I (pl) help wash clothes (ser mkr)
wash rice (ser mkr) prepare make evening (conn)
meal that time mother again go to market
any food five after eat (com) meal after then is mother rest
and relaxing (conn) time she sits
there knit sweater (ser mrk) sew clothes as
sew clothes as listen radio
this way like she can spend
her one few leisure time wait
until one unit person go to sleep (com) sleep
after mother still there washing clothes
sewing clothes mending clothes she almost
every nite Not until twelve hour
not go to sleep (cat)

Free Translation

1. My mother is a very hard working woman. 2. Almost every morning she gets up at about seven o'clock. 3. The rest of us are still sleeping then. 4. After she gets up she makes our breakfast 5. and calls us to get up to go to school. 6. We get up and breakfast is made (so we eat and) go to school. 7. After we leave for school mother begins dinner. 8-9. Before she can make dinner she must go to the market and buy food. 10-11. She buys what we need for dinner and comes home and makes it. 12. It is then twelve o'clock and we come home to eat. 13-15. After we eat we go back to school and mother begins to wash clothes because every day we have many dirty clothes. 16-17. Around four o'clock P.M. we come home from school and help wash clothes, wash the rice and make supper. 18. At that time mother goes to the market again to buy food for supper. 19. At five o'clock after we eat, then mother can relax. She sits and knits and sews and listens to the radio. 21. This is how she spends her leisure time. 22. After everyone has gone to bed she is still there washing, sewing, and mending clothes. 23. She hardly ever gets to bed before midnight.

Key

(com) Completive
(conn) Connective
(cat) Categorizer
ø empty morpheme

SIL UND phonology used except
æ = /ä/
j = /ðz/

tones: 1 - high
2 - mid
3 - low

31- rising
21- mid rising
23- mid falling
Submitted by: Lothar Jagst  
Informant: Wing Poon Ng  
Language: Cantonese  
Date: Aug. 3, 1966

fooj wun svd mei§ tarj //  
Fong Wun lose name list.

1. joi jin kho si-hau  jo§ li§ wan//  
In war country time-wait Jong Ling Wan.  Jong Ling Wan

yau? ye?-ko? si?k-ha?//  
has one-clas eat-guest.  He-pos name call-pt Fong Wun.

3. khoi-ge mei§ ki§-j§? fooj wun//

4. ni-ko? yan hai ho? fooj-mein//  
This-clas man aux good clever-

3. khoi-ge mei§ ki§-j§? fooj wun//

5. joj li§ wan m-ji

This-clas man aux good clever-  Jong Ling Wan not-know bright.

he-pos wisdom-potential. So Jong Ling Wan then aux treat sg

khoi ho?-§i khoi toi?-toi? ke-ta si?k-ha?//  
7. yanwai

him good-like he treat-treat pl other-he eat-guest. Because

joj li§ wan khoi yau? ho?-to? §o?k jo? pei yan / khoi

Jong Ling Wan he has good-many house rent give people, he


now need go to hand debt. So, he wishes send
(collect)


one-clas man-guest go to hand debt. So, he send
(collect)

ni-ko? fooj wun hoi sau? jai // 10. fooj wun khoi

this-clas Fong Wun go to hand debt. Fong Wun he
(collect)
then bring-ptcl this-clas name list, this-clas rent-guest-adj

meiq tai? ko?-go? thei-foj ko?-do // 11. khoi
name list go to-there that-clas earth-square that-there. He (place)

jau? toi? khoi-de koj va? yga? joj liq wan m-sai?
then face him-pl speak say now Jong Ling Wan not-do (verb)

sau? ne-de-ge jo? // 12. yga? jivj ni-foj meiq tai?
hand you-pl-pos rent. I now take this-clas name list (collect)

sij? khoi // 13. koma / foj wun yau? fan-hoj kin
burn-pt it. So, Fong Wun again back-go to see

jog liq wan // 14. khoi wa? kvm-ya? jog sau? m-to jo?/
Jong Ling Wan. He say now-day I hand not-get rent, (collect)
yanwai jog yikin jivj ni-foj meiq tai? siu? khoi //
because I already take this-clas name list burn-pt.

Jong Ling Wan not-angry. He say good-kind good-kind
let you how-do so how-do kind(ly). Good-kind pass-to get


jog liq wan jau? yiu? quo?-fau? // 20. jog liq wan jau?
Jong Ling Wan then need go out-run. Jong Ling Wan then (exile)
Fong Wun loses the name list.

1. In war time Jong Ling Wan (was prince). 2. Jong Ling Wan has a guest. 3. His name was Fong Wun. 4. This man was very clever. 5. Jong Ling Wan did not know his ability. 6. So (consequently) Jong Ling Wan treated him like he treated the other guests. 7. Because Jong Ling Wan had very many houses rented to people, he now needed to go to collect debts. 8. So, he wishes to send a guest to go to collect debts. 9. So, he sent this Fong Wun to go to collect debts. 10. Fong Wun then brought this name list, this tenant name list and went to that place there. 11. He then faced them to speak and said: "Now Jong Ling Wan won't collect your rent." 12. I now take this name list and burn it. 13. So...
Fong Wun returns again to see Jong Ling Wan. He says: "Today I did not collect nor receive any rent, because I already took this name list and burnt it". Jong Ling Wan was not angry. He says: "O.K., O.K. I let you do it any way you like". Well, one or two years pass. Jong Ling Wan loses his position. Consequently Jong Ling Wan has to go into exile. Therefore Jong Ling Wan had (all of a sudden) no friends. Yet Fong Wun follows him along into exile. So they go then and he (Fong Wun) suggests that they go first to the place where he once had to collect rent. This is (it turns out) the only place where people welcome Jong Ling Wan. They shout: "Long live, long live Jong Ling Wan".

Key to phonetic symbol substitution.

kh-kh ʔ-ʔ ʒ-ʃ ɔ-ɔ ɣ-ɣ
th-th ɬ-ʃ ŋ-ŋ ʊ-ʊ

Key to abbreviations.

adj-adjectivizer pos-possessive
aux-auxiliary(to be) pt-past tense
clas-classifier(of nouns & pronouns) ptcl-participle
pl-plural sg-singular

Morpheme division by dash.
Word division by space.
Pause by single slash.
Full stop by double slash.
Tone was not marked in this story since it is phonemic in only one or two instances and there the context will remove the ambiguity.
Submitted by: Marshall Lawrence
Informant: Wing Ng
Language: Cantonese
Date: August 1966

35 3 3 1 1 3 3 34 3 1 5 3 3 3 3
seeng ko lang tin ni to lok dzo ho to su 2 hâm pa long kém
last cold sky here fall (per) very many snow all all
to ye to pe kêm dzi 3. yaw ye yet ngo yiu hoi chán
many thing also by cover (per) has one day I want go meal
1 3 1 3 3 5 3 1 3 3 3 3
1 tiang suk chan 4. hong to 1 pun 32 kei si haw yâng wâi
room eat meal walk arrive-at half road (p) time because
3 32 1 3 5 1 kêm dzi saw yi hông-tê sêp fêng unit road also by snow cover (per) therefore walk (man) 10/10
3 54 seng fu 5. tong ngo hoi to chan tiang kei si haw ngo hard torture. when I go arrive meal room (p) time I
1 3 1 3 3 3 5 3 32 3 3 3 3 3 3
wan m -to yêp mun ko thiw lo ngo saw yi dzaw find (neg) (aux) in door (?) unit road I therefore circumference
5 3 1 3 3 3 1 3 1 3 1 3 5 3
wai chong ha thai kin yaw yet go long yet thiw chong chong around peek (dur) look see has one unit hole one unit long long
3 1 3 1 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3
kei long 6. ngo sin taw m dzi khoi hai yêng lai dzo mè yê (p) hole. I at first (neg) know it is use come do what
3 1 3 1 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3
7. tông hai tong ngo maw tai dzông yêp hai kei si haw thai (?) But when I kneel low peek in go (p) time look
3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3
kin yêm lai ko to dzaw hai yêp mun kei lo 8. tong ngo maw see origin come there so is in door (p) road. when I kneel
tai heeng ko ko long ko to pha yêp hoi chan tiang kei si haw low in that hole there crawl in go meal room (p) time
3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3
9. tong ngo yêp to chan tiang kei si haw 10. ngo thai kin when I in arrive meal room (p) time I look see

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Free Translation:

1. Last winter there was a lot of snow here. 2. Everything was covered with snow. 3. One day I wanted to go to the dining room to eat. 4. When I was halfway there, because the road was covered with snow, therefore, it was very hard to walk. 5. When I arrived at the dining room I could not find the entrance door so I looked around and saw a hole, a very long tunnel. 6. At first I did not know what it was used for. 7. But when I kneeled down and looked inside I saw the entrance door there. 8. When I kneeled down and crawled through the hole into the dining room and 9. got into it I saw that there were approximately twenty people in there waiting to dine 11. We were sitting in the guest room waiting to dine. 12. We waited for half an hour. 13. After that we began to eat the meal. 14. Immediately after I finished eating, because I had a lot of things to do, I went back to the dormitory.

Key: All orthographical units have approximately the same value as those used at S.I.L., U.N.D. except ng /ŋ/, dz/dz/, ch/ʈʂ/
1. ngo yiz gin hoi go ho do defong  
   I also (?) go that very many place  
2. ngo hoi go thai singsi  
   I go that big cities  
3. sei singsi heung cin than hai mui yet da defong thu hai ho  
   that small cities villages but every one (cl) place also is very  
4. sei singsi yau thi jau hau wo ngoi ho chun ge simun  
   big cities have (?) then (?) tall building big mansion  
5. heung cin jau hai yau ho do ho mai lai ge kau gai fung gin  
   small cities have (?) then (?) peaceful kind approachable (poss) citizens  
6. than hai joi mai lai ge de'fong joi ngo lai gong jan hai thon ngo  
   most beautiful (poss) place in me to say then is when I  
   but ---- most beautiful (poss) place in me to say then is when I  
7. siyi yin ni da de'fong hai mo ho mai lai ge ho  
   two three old time (?) in China main land time (?) in my father (poss)  
   village although this (cl) place is no very pretty (poss) high  
   building big mansion very wide --- (poss) streets slow all have house also  
   is very old (poss) also end those street slow is very narrow (poss) but
Free Translation:

I have been to many places. I have been to big cities, small cities, villages. Every place has its beauty. Big cities have their tall buildings, big mansions. Small cities have their friendly people. Villages have a lot of beautiful scenery. But the most beautiful place to me is the place where I lived when I was two or three years old. That place is my father's native village in mainland China. This place does not have any big buildings, wide streets, all it has is little old houses and narrow streets. This place looks like a picture deeply imprinted in my mind. This place has green grass, tall trees, wide fields, cows, everything rural. Farmers are busy plowing the fields.

Symbols:

The symbols used are similar to Spanish except for the following.

ng + initial = ṅ
ng + final = n
j = dz
ck = ts
h = aspiration

Tones are 1, 2, 3, 4
High - low
(cl) = classifier
(poss) = possessive marker
// = end of sentence
from before in middle country have a cl. very good Ajm. teacher. long time ago China

he very famous name. he Ajm. name call Confucius. at he

tell knowledge that period time he very happy happy travel walk. he like

and his those pl. knowledge follower have one day right when mountain

side walk road that period time see approach a cl. female human over woman

place cry. she cry Ajm. very bitterly. Confucius then stop

compl. drop come ask her, "do what thing need cry Ajm. that cl.

female human say, above one year tiger come that period time eat compl.

woman

female human say, above one year tiger come that period time eat compl.

very long before time tiger ordm. one time come that

period time also eat compl. my husband Ajm. father. I now one

cl. man even not have lean against lean against. what shape not depend
haam ma 13. kam Hοŋ Fu Ci man kși, "tim kai ne m
cry Qm." then Confucius ask her, what explanation you not
why
pun hɔi cէŋ ci loi min hɔi ɔu le? 14. kan ɔu
move to city city inside surface to live Qm.? close live

city

kam cao mo lo fu la! 15. ko ko
people a little Ajm. place then then not tiger part! that cl.
emphatic

loī yān vaa, "po te pun lei ho yi pun hɔi yao yān
female human say, "1st pers.pl. originally can move to have people
woman

yeŋ kे te foŋ ɔu, tan hai po te cэŋ yun ɔu hai
shadow Ajm. place live, but 1st pers. pl. rather like live in

li ko foŋ ye kе te foŋ yān wai hai Hοŋ ɔun cэŋ ci loi
this cl. wild Ajm. place because in village city city inside

min cэŋ fu m hai kei ho." 16. Hοŋ Fu Ci tʰэŋ co ci hao,
surface government not is fair good." Confucius hear compl.after,

cao tai tai tʰ2 haam co yat ha. 17. cao man kśli ko ti
then big big sigh compl. once part. then ask his those pl.

hok caan. 18. cao vaa pei kśli ko ti hok caan
knowledge follower. then say for his those pl. knowledge follower
disciple
tʰ2, "ne te kin tou li ko hai yat ko ho ho kе
hear, "2nd pers. pl. see approach this cl. is a cl. very good Ajm.

pei lai. 19. pok cэŋ pat yu maаŋ fu." comparison example. tyrannical government not as brutal tiger." example
Free Translation

1. Once upon a time there lived a very good teacher in China. 2. He was very famous. 3. His name was Confucius. 4. When he lectured, he liked to travel on foot. 5. One day while he and his students were walking along the hillside, they saw a woman crying over there. 6. She cried very bitterly. 7. Confucius then stopped to ask her: "Why do you cry?" 8. The woman said: "Last year a tiger came and ate my husband. 9. This year the tiger came and again ate my son. 10. A long time ago the tiger came for the first time and at that time he ate my husband's father. 11. Now I do not even have one person on whom to depend. 12. Should I not cry?" 13. Then Confucius asked her, "Why did you not move into a city to live? 14. If you lived closer to people there would be no tiger." 15. The woman said: "Originally we could have moved to live with people, but we rather lived at this wild place because in the cities governments are not very fair."

16. After Confucius heard this he sighed deeply. 17. Then he asked his students. 18. Then he said to his students, "You see, this is a very good example. 19. A brutal tiger is not as bad as tyrannical government."

Abbreviations:
cl. - classifier
Ajm. - Adjective marker
pl. - plural
Avm. - Adverb marker
compl. - completive
Qm. - Question marker
ordm. - ordinal number marker
part. - particle