A Corpus of

Cantonese Ideophones

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INTRODUCTION

Words are the seeds of syntax, and word classes like verbs and nouns project their peculiar grammatical features. An understanding of the grammatical structure of a language therefore subsumes an understanding of the various word classes in that language. Yet it is often challenging to neatly group all words of a language into classes. Ideophones typify such features of wordhood and lexicality in grammar (Voeltz and Kilian-Hatz 2001). However, there is considerable controversy as to whether they constitute a coherent class or are indeed distributed across many word classes (e.g. Newman 1968, 2000). This corpus is a database of potential ideophones in Cantonese, elicited from a group of native Cantonese speakers in Hong Kong.

What are Ideophones?

Doke (1935) is often credited with the term “ideophone” which is defined as: “A vivid representation of an idea in sound. A word, often onomatopoeic, which describes a predicate, qualificative or adverb in respect to manner, colour, sound, smell, action, state or intensity.” (Doke 1935: 118, cited in Voeltz and Kilian-Hatz 2001). The term has found its way into many linguistic texts, especially dictionaries and lexicons. Trask (1993: 131-132) defines an ideophone as “[O]ne of a grammatically distinct class of words, occurring in certain languages, which typically express either distinctive sounds or visually distinctive types of action.” Crystal (1997:189) on the other defines an ideophone as a “…term used in linguistics and phonetics for any vivid representation of an idea in sound, such as occurs through onomatopoeia.” This corpus of Cantonese ideophones, however, shows that ideophones are not necessarily onomatopoeic.

Another issue arising from studies of ideophones is whether or not ideophones constitute a word class. Crystal’s definition of ideophones goes on to specify that in Bantu linguistics, “it is the name of a particular word class containing sound symbolic words.” In fact, in many other languages of Africa and other parts of the world, ideophones are often treated as belonging to a specific word class (Bodomo [2000] for Dagaare, Kulemeka [1997] for Chichewa, Newman [1968, 2000] for Hausa, etc.). However there is considerable controversy as to whether they constitute a coherent class or are indeed distributed across many word classes.

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1 Cantonese is a Yue dialect of Chinese that is spoken widely in many regions in Southern China, including Guangdong and Hong Kong.
About the Corpus

What qualifies as an ideophone in Cantonese?

“Complex Adjectives”?

In Cantonese, a group of words with striking morphophonological, syntactic and semantic features seem to be very much comparable to the class of words called ideophones in Dagaare and other African languages. They seem at first blush to be composed out of adjectives and, as mentioned above, have indeed been categorized as a class of adjectives and given the term “complex adjectives” (Lau 1999). However, a striking difference between these and “simple adjectives” in Chinese is that it is hard to give them denotational, dictionary meaning. If they were really a class of adjectives they ought to have identifiable meanings like other adjectives.

Morphophonological Features

Reduplication and onomatopoeia are overarching morphophonological features in the formation of Cantonese ideophones. From our preliminary observations of the data, a typical Cantonese ideophone consists of two to four syllables. Very often, an adjective or a part of it is reduplicated in several ways. We have identified nine morphological types. They are:

(i) AA, as in 叮叮 ding1 ding1.
(ii) AB, as in 巴渣 baa1 zaa1.
(iii) ABC, as in 無里頭 mou4 lei4 tau4.
(iv) AAB, as in 彈嘭聲 mou4 lei4 tau4.
(v) ABB, as in 長癩癩 coeng4 laai4 laai4.
(vi) ABCD, as in 砰擰繃 bing4 ling1 baang4 laang4.
(vii) ABAC, as in 花呢花碌 faa1 li1 faa1 luk1.
(viii) ABAB, as in霎下霎下 saap6 haa5 saap6 haa5, and
(ix) AABB. 岩岩慚慚 aam4 aam4 caam4

Syntactic Features

It appears that, like Dagaare and other African language data, ideophones in Cantonese do not enter into morphosyntactic modification. While they may qualify or extend the meaning of some other word class or phrase in the syntax, they are themselves not modified by other word classes, nor do they enter into any morphosyntactic affixation to form phrases or other units of syntax within the construction, as illustrated in examples (a)-(e).

(a) 間 房 黑 媽 媽，你 點 瞭 到 書 嘅 ？
gaan1 fong2 hak1 maa1 maa1,  nei5 dim2 tai2 dou2 syu1 gaa3
CL room black maa maa 2.SG how read able to book PART
“This room is so dark. How can you read?”

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Semantic/pragmatic Functions

Ideophones in Cantonese do not seem to have independent denotational, dictionary meaning. It is hard to gloss and translate them morpheme for morpheme. This is exactly the case with ideophones in many languages that depend on the meaning of other words or on the context of the enunciation for meaning ascription. Speaker-linguists often say that ideophones feature more in colloquial and oral language situations than in formal and written language situations. This again is exactly the situation in many cultures with ideophones attested in their languages.

Where do the data come from?

The data were collected from a variety of spoken and written sources. The corpus contains a total of 178 ideophonic expressions with example sentences, 50 of which were collected from local newspapers and magazines by one of the Research Assistants, Bonnie Wong. All these sources are cited as footnotes in the corpus. The rest of the ideophones and their corresponding example sentences were elicited from a group of native Cantonese speakers.

How is the corpus organized?

Two methods are used to organize the 177 ideophones and their example sentences. The first part of the corpus is arranged semantically according to the entities they imitate or describe. These categories include, but are not limited to, sound symbolisms, lights, actions, manners, and states.

When there is no character representation of a certain syllable, a phonologically similar character is adopted. If no such character can be identified, the symbol □ is used.
The second part of the corpus organizes the data in terms of the nine morphological types identified in Bodomo (2004) and Wong (2005) – AA, AB, ABC, AAB, ABB, ABCD, ABAC, ABAB, and AABB. All of the ideophonic items are arranged in alphabetical order under each of their corresponding categories.

All Chinese/Cantonese data in this corpus are translated into English. For the purpose of illustration, these examples are also glossed and translated in the following format:

Chinese/Cantonese characters: 条 纵 帛 度 吊 吊 □
Cantonese Romanization with tones: tiu4 sing4 hai6 dou3 diu4 diu2 fing6
Morpheme-to-morpheme translation: CL rope be dou6 hang-hang-fing6
Free translation in English: “The rope is hanging loosely.”

Bibliography

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4 This corpus adopts 6 basic tones in Cantonese: Tone 1: High Level; Tone 2: High Rising; Tone 3: Mid Level; Tone 4: Low Falling; Tone 5: Low Rising; Tone 6: Low Level.
5 Abbreviations used: 1/2/3.SG/PL = 1st/2nd/3rd person singular/plural, CL = classifier, INTENS = intensifier, INTJ. = interjection, (neg.) = the expression has negative meaning, NEG = negative marker, PART = particle, POSS = possessive marker.

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THE CORPUS
PART I: SEMANTIC AND PRAGMATIC FUNCTIONS

1. SOUND SYMBOLISMS

1. \textit{baang4 baang4 seng1} (嘭嘭聲): increasing rapidly

米高唔係咪呢排打官司打到窮，所以

mai5-gou1 m4 zi6 hai6 mai1 lei1-paa1 daa2-gun1-si6 daa2 dou3 kung4, so2-ji5

Michael NEG know is mai1 recently attend-courts attend dou3 poor, so that

“Michael has recently been dealing with many court cases which cost him a fortune. And that might be the reason why he thinks of Nicole, whose career is at its pinnacle.”

2. \textit{bing4 ling1 baang3 laang4} (砰擰砰擰砰擰砰擰繃繃): noise made by falling things

間房裡面砰砰 砰砰 擰擰 擰擰 繃繃  

gaan1 fong4 lei5-min6 bing4 ling1 baang3 laang4, zou6 mat1 gam3 cow4

CL room inside bing4-ling1-baang3-laang4, do what so noisy

“How come the room is so noisy?”

3. \textit{caat3 laa3} (嚓喇): sound made when something passes through a hole perfectly

籃球“嚓喇嚓喇嚓喇嚓喇”一聲擦過籃板

laam4 kau4 “caat3 laa3” jat1 sing1 caat3 gwo3 laam4 baan2

basket ball “caat3-laa3” one sound pass through basket board

“The basketball passed through the net perfectly.”

4. \textit{dik6 dik6 zai2} (滴滴仔), a way of playing table tennis

我打乒乓波，最鐘意打滴滴仔嘅

ngo5 daa1 ping1-pong1-bo1, zeoi3 zung1-ji3 daa1 dik6 dik6 zai2 gaa3

1.SG hit table tennis, most love hit dik6-dik6-zai2 PART

“I like to play with dik6-dik6-zai2 style when I play table tennis.”

5. \textit{ding1 ding1} (叮叮), tram in Hong Kong

我最鐘意搭嘅交通工具就係叮叮嘅

ngo5 zeoi3 zung1-ji3 daa3 gaa3 gaa1-tung1 gung1-geoi6 zou6 hai6 ding1 ding1 laa1

1.SG most love take POSS transport tool zou6 be tram PART

“Tram is my favorite public transport.”

6. \textit{ding1 dong3} (叮噹), sound of door bell

做乜個門鐘成日叮噹叮噹叮噹嘅嘅？

zou6 mat1 go3 mun4 zung1 seng4 jat6 ding1 dong3 ding1 dong3 gam2 hoeng2 ge2?

Do what CL door bell all day ding1-dong3-ding1-dong3 gam2 ring PART

“Why is the doorbell keep ringing?”

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6 from Sudden Weekly (1/10/2004)
7 from Ming Pao (27/9/2004: A23)
7. *ding4 ding1 dam4 dam3* (叮叮鑽鑽), **to describe somebody wearing lots of jewels**

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佢好貪靚成日都成身叮叮鑽鑽
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“She likes dressing up herself and she always wears lots of accessories on her.”

8. *gei1 li1 gu1 lou1* (嘰哩咕嚕), **sound of a foreign language**

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Si-naam-sang suddenly spoke to her friend in French, something like “avez-vous diné?”.
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9. *ji4 ji4 aa1 aa1* (咦咦呀呀), **sound produced by a violin**

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(Somebody) saw the old man put the violin on his shoulder and held it under his chin. He then played “The Swan Lake”.
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10. *meou1 meou1* (喵喵), **cat / sound made by a cat**

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No wonder I still find them delicious, even though I usually hate raw eggs.
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11. *si4 li1 saa4 laa4* (嘶哩啞啞), **Sounds of rain drops**

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“It is raining in torrents out there. I can hear it.”
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12. *syut4 syut4 seng1* (雪雪), **noise made when somebody eats**

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“No wonder I still find them delicious, even though I usually hate raw eggs.”
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8 from Ming Pao (4/10/2004)
9 from Apple Daily (11/10/2004)
10 from Sudden Weekly (1/10/2004)
13. **wou1 wou1** (旺旺), *dog / sound made by a dog*

Mum said she’ll buy me a dog for my birthday.

14. **zi1 zi1 seng1** (吱吱声), *creaking sound*

There is a creaking sound coming from the rusted door hinge.

1. **LIGHTS**

15. **gwong1 caang4 caang4** (光撑撑), *(very) bright*

The room is too bright. Please switch off the light.

16. **hak1 maa1 maa1** (黑妈妈), *(very) dark*

The room is so dark. Please switch on all the lights.

2. **ACTIONS**

17. **aai1 aai1 bang6 bang1** (挨挨崩崩), *the act of leaning on something/somebody*

Stop leaning here and there. Stand upright.

18. **am4 am4 cam4 cam4** (嗡嗡 嗡嗡), *murmuring*

He/she is always murmuring, which is really annoying.

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11. *from Sudden Weekly (1/10/2004)*
19. **bang1 bang1 tiu3 (蹦蹦跳), jumping around**

瑶瑶一马 当先排在最前，见到爹哋即蹦蹦跳跳走出来 jiui4 jiui4 jat1-maa5-dong1-si1 paai4 zoi6 zeoi3 cin4, gin3 dou3 de1-di4 zik1 bang1 bang1 tiu3 zau2 ceot1-loi4 Jiu-jiu fastest line-up at most up-front, see dou3 father immediately baang6-baang6-jump run out

“Jiu-jiu lined up at the most first position. She jumped to her father immediately when she saw him.”

20. **be1 be1 gung3 (啤啤貢), staring**

做咩啤啤貢呀，想打交呀? zou6 me1 be1 be1 gung3 aa1, soeng2 dou1-gaau1 aa1 do what stare-stare-gung3 PART want fight PART

“What are you staring at? You want to have a fight?”

21. **cit1 coet1 gam3 zyun3 (咁轉), going around**

我今日成日排公司咁轉，忙到不得了呀！ Ngo5 gam- jat6 seng4 jat6 hai2 gung1-si1 cit1 coet1 gam3 zyun3, mong4 dou3 bat1-dak1-liu5 aa3 today whole day be office cit1-coet-gam3-turn-round busy dou3 extremely PART

“I’ve been extremely busy and turning round and round the office for the whole day.”

22. **diu4 diu2 fing6 (吊吊), hanging loosely (about to fall down)**

條繩係吊吊，嘘返實侷啦。 tiu4 sing4 hai6 dou3 diu4 diu2 fing6. bong2 faan2 sat6 keoi5 laa1 CL rope be dou6 hang-hang-fing6, tie back tight 3.SG PART

“The rope is hanging loosely. Fasten it.”

23. **goek3 ngan3 ngan3 (腳腳韌), leg/feet moving, shaking**

唔好腳腳韌韌啦，無禮貌嘅。 m4 hou2 goek3 ngan3 ngan3 laa1, mou4 lai5-maa6 gaa3 NEG good leg-shake-shake PART, without courtesy PART

“Stop shaking your legs. It is impolite.”

24. **gwaa1 gwaa1 giu3 (呱呱叫), shouting / yelling / talking loudly**

上海話更 是呱呱叫。 soeng6-hoi2 waa2 gan3 si6 gwaa1 gwaa1 giu3 Shanghai dialect INTENS is gwaa1-gwaa1-giu3

“(S/he) spoke with fluent Shanghai dialect.”

25. **haa1 haa1 siu3 (哈哈笑), laughing**

佢成日哈哈笑，一啲都唔正經呀。 keoi5 be2 zek3 gau2 hau2 maak3 haa1 haa1 haa1 (笑哈哈), laughing

“S/he is laughing all the time. S/he doesn’t look serious.”

26. **hau2 maak3 maak3 (口啞), mouth opening (when one being surprised/shocked)**

佢俾隻狗嚇到口啞啞出唔到聲。 keoi5 bi2 zek3 gau2 hau2 maak3 haa1 haa1 (笑哈哈), laughing

“S/he is scared off by the dog and can’t say anything.”

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12 from Sudden Weekly (1/10/2004)
13 from Ming Pao (4/10/2004)
27. **hau2 zat6 zat6 (口窒窒), halting, being hesitant and uncertain**

_She is speaking hesitantly. I think he/she must be telling lies._

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3.SG talk thing mouth-obstruct-obstruct gam2 must be dou6 talk PROG lie
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28. **hei3 cyun2 cyun2 (氣喘喘), breathless**

_Rosemary every time appear show dou1 air-cyun2-cyun2_

_Every time when Rosemary appears, she is breathless._

29. **nau2 nau2 ling6 ling6 (扭扭擰擰扭扭擰擰扭扭擰擰扭扭擰擰), twisting / being indecisive**

_There was a rumour saying that Se-si-maan was not very cooperative when she videotaped an advertisement for a slimming company._

30. **ngaan5 gwat6 gwat6 (眼掘掘), the act of staring**

_Do what eye-stare-stare PART_

_Why are you staring at me? (being provocative)_

31. **ngaan5 zaam2 zaam2 (眼斬斬), blinking eyes**

_Look. The baby is blinking its eyes. See, how cute it is._

32. **bing4 bing4 tiu3 (砰砰跳), beating (usually of heart)**

_The hearts of people were bouncing. They did not even slow down after mid-night._

33. **siu3 ke4 ke4 (笑駱駱), laughing**

_Yip-syun was very happy when she went to see a movie with a male friend._

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14 from Apple Daily (18/10/2004)
15 from Sudden Weekly (1/10/2004)
16 from Apple Daily (28/9/2004)
17 from Apple Daily (2/10/2004:C6)
34. **siu3 siu3 hau2** (笑笑口), laughing

When Zau-Wing-Hang was told that Y u might ask him out to see lanterns, he smiled and said he would go if she asked.

35. **tau4 dap1 dap1** (頭耷耷), head down (in low spirit, not in mood)

When you stand on one leg, you should lift your head and look forward. Don’t look down.

36. **tau4 ngok6 ngok6** (頭頭), head up/ movement

That little kid is always jumping here and there. He’s very lively.

37. **tiu3 tiu3 zaat3** (跳跳紮紮), jumping around

Those kids are making so much noise. I can’t sleep at all.

38. **zaa3 zaa3 dai3 (詐詐諦諦), to pretend / the act of pretending**

Don’t pretend (that you’re not keeping my watch). Give me back my watch immediately!

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18 from Apple Daily (28/9/2004)
19 from Apple Daily (18/10/2004:E4)
20 from Apple Daily (12/10/2004)
41. zeoi2 zell zell (咀咀), Talkative (neg.)

Don’t talk too much. Pay more attention to doing your homework.”

42. zi4 zi4 zam4 (吱吱), whispering / talking

“These two people always hide somewhere and whisper to each other.”

3. MANNERS

43. baa1 zaa1 (巴渣), talkative (neg.)

“She is a very talkative and impolite girl”.

44. bai1 bai1 dei2 (跛跛地), crippled

“Ever since the dog was knocked down by a car, it has been crippled and has not been able to run.”

45. faai3 faai3 ceoi3 ceoi3 (快快脆脆), fast

“That assignment is very urgent. You get it done fast.”

46. gei1 gei1 zaa1 zaa1 (嘰嘰喳喳), talking quickly

“It talked quickly.”

47. gui6 laai4 laai4 (癱癱), getting tired

“I just finished playing basketball and I’m feeling very tired.”

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21 from Sudden Weekly (1/10/2004)
22 from Apple Daily (11/10/2004)
48.  gwaai3 gai1 (怪雞), strange
梁嘉傑演得很怪雞
loeng4-gaa1-git6 jin5 dak1 han2 gwaai3-gai1
Loeng-gaa-git act dak1 INTENS strange-chicken
“Loeng-gaa-git acted very strangely.”

49.  gwaai1 gwaai1 dei2 (乖乖地), well-behaved-like
你要乖乖地做晒功课呀
nei5 jiu3 gwaai1 gwaai1 dei2 zou6 saai3 di1 gung1-fo3 aa1
2.SG ought well-behaved-well-behaved-dei2 do all homework
“You should be good and finish all of your homework.”

50.  gwaai1 gwaai2 dei2 (怪怪地), strange
佢把聲音好似怪怪地咩？佢傷風呀？
keoi5 baa2 seng1 hou2 ci5 gwaai1 gwaai2 dei2 gam3 ge2 keoi5 soeng1-fung1 aa4?
3.SG CL voice INTENS seem strange-strange-dei2 -like PART 3.SG cold PART
“His/her voice sounds strange. Is s/he having a cold?”

51.  gwai2 gwai2 syu2 syu2 (鬼鬼鼠鼠), behaving with hidden motives
佢做乜鬼鬼鼠鼠咁，會唔會係賊？
keoi5 zou6 mat1 gwai2 gwai2 syu2 syu2 gam2 wui5 m4 wui5 hai6 caak2 lei4 gaa3
3.SG why ghost ghost syu2 syu2 gam2, will NEG will be thief PART PART
“He/she looks furtive. Could s/he be a thief?”

52.  hyut3 lam4 lam4 (血淋淋), bloody
美國在越南的“有限度戰爭”就是
mei5-gwok3 zoi6 jyut6-naam4 dik1 “jau5 haan6-dou6 zin3 zang1 zau6 si6
America in Vietnam POSS “have limit war fight just be
一個活生生血淋淋的例子
jat1 go3 wut6 sang1 sang1. hyut3 lam4 lam4 dik1 lai6-zi2
one CL live birth birth. blood-soak-soak dik1 example
“The war between America and Vietnam is one of the vivid and bloody examples.”

53.  ji4 ji1 ngo4 ngo4 (依依哦哦), murmuring into somebody’s ears
學友大爆老婆羅美薇有潔癖，鍾意
hok2-jaau5 daai6-baau3 lou5 po4 lo4 mei5 mei4 jau5 git3 pik1. zung1 ji3
Hok-jaau expose wife Lo-mei-mei have cleanliness, like
依 依哦哦同埋黑面
ji4 ji1 ngo4 ngo4 tung4-maa4 hak1 min6
ji4-ji1-ngo4-ngo4 and angry
“Hok-jaau told others that his wife, Lo-mei-mei, had phobia on dirt. At the same time, she liked to murmur into his ears and be angry with him.”

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23 Example from Ming Pao (28/9/2004)
24 from Ming Pao (28/9/2004)
25 from Apple Daily (3/10/2004)
54. **kau4 kau4 kei4 kei4 (求求其其), being sketchy, careless**

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kau4 kau4 kei4 kei4 gam3 zau6 do finish all homework PART
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“S/he has finished all the homework carelessly.”

55. **ke4 le4 (騾呢), behaving awkwardly**

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实际上 he always likes to do funny things when he takes photos. This is really strange.
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56. **laa2 laa2 dei2 (地), girly-like (to describe male)**

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He behaves girly-like. That’s so horrible.
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57. **lap6 lap6 lo6 lo6 (邏邏), doing things slowly / being inefficient**

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S/he does things slowly and absolutely inefficient.
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58. **leon6 leon6 zeon6 zeon6 (論論盡盡), clumsy**

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S/he is a clumsy person. Nobody trusts him/her.
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59. **lou4 lou4 dou1 dou1 (嘮嘮叨叨), murmuring all the time**

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Remember not to murmur and talk vaguely all the time.
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60. **lung4 lung2/4 dei2 (聾聾地), a bit deaf**

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You have to speak louder. S/he is a bit deaf.
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61. **maa4 maa2 dei2 (麻麻地), not bad, not so good, so so, okay…etc.**

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This cake doesn’t taste good. The one I ate last time was far better.
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26 from Apple Daily (30/9/2004)
27 from Apple Daily (1/10/2004)
62. **maan6 tan1 tan1 (慢吞吞), slow**

佢做事慢吞吞, 完全無效率
keoi5 zou6 si6 maan6 tan1 tan1. jyun4-cyun4 mou4 haau6-leot6 gaa3
3.SG do work slow-tan1-tan1, completely not-have efficiency PART

“S/he does things slowly; s/he is completely inefficient.”

63. **mil mil mol1 mol1 (咪咪摸摸), slow**

佢做事咪咪摸摸, 完全無效率
keoi5 zou6 si6 mil mil mol1 mol1. jyun4-cyun4 mou4 haau6-leot6 gaa3
3.SG do work mil-mil-mol1-mol1, completely not-have efficiency PART

“S/he does things slowly; s/he is completely inefficient.”

64. **mou4 dyun1 dyun1 (無端端), without any reason**

我自己同個男仔朋友出街
ngo5 zi6-gei2 mou4 dyun1 dyun1 tung4 go3 naam4 zai2 pang4-jau5 ceot1 gaa3
1. SG myself no-dyun1-dyun1 with CL boy little friend out street

“I went out with a male friend with no reason.”

65. **mou4 lei4 tau4 (無里頭), illogical**

早已變得神經錯亂, 無里頭
zou2 ji5 bin3 dak1 sin4-ging1 cok3 lyun6 mou4 lei4 tau4,
early ASP change dak1 nervous wrong mess no-lei4-head.

并因外流內流而散失功力
bing6 tan1 ngo6 lau4 no1 lau4 ji4 saan3 sat1 gung1-lik6
also cause outside flow inside flow so-that scatter lose power

“(They) could only think illogically and lose their powers.”

無里頭錯摸的劇情, 其實涉及江湖
mou4 lei4 tau4 co3-mo2-dik1 kek6-cing4, kei4-sat6 sip3-kap6 gong1-wu4.
no-lei4-head unpredictable scene, actually involve gangster-society.

(They) could only think illogically and lose their powers.”

洪門, 祖廳, 孫中山和興中會
hung4-mun4. zou2 miu6. syun1-zung1-saan1 wo4 hing3-zung1-wui3
Hung4-mun2. ancestral-temple. Dr. Sun and Hing-zung-wui

“The drama had unpredictable themes, which were related to the gangster-society, Hung-mun, ancestral temple, Dr. Sun and Hing-zung-wui.”

66. **mou4 mou4 liu4 liu4 (無無聊草), being idle**

佢成日都無無聊聊, 浪費我地嘅時間
keoi5 seng4 jat6 dou1 mou4 mou4 liu4 liu4 liu4 gam3, long4-fai3 ngo5-dei6 gei3 si4-gaan3
3.SG all day dou1 no-no-liu4 liu4 gam3, waste 1.PL POSS time

“S/he has always been idle and wasted our time.”

---

28 from Apple Daily (27/9/2004:C12)
29 from Ming Pao (28/9/2004)
67. **muk6 muk6 duk6 duk6** (木木獨獨), to describe sby being dull/boring

“他是个很无聊的人。难怪没人对他的这种行为感兴趣。”

68. **mun6 mun2/6 dei2** (悶悶地), feeling a bit bored

“我常常感到有点无聊，所以我会看书。”

69. **mung2 bai3 bai3** (蒙蒙閉閉), being silly / absent-minded

“这个小男孩很容易上当受骗。”

70. **ngaang6 baang1 baang1** (硬繃繃), being stubborn

“他/她很固执，不听人劝。”

71. **pe1 pe1 fu1** (啤啤夫), swaying

“The recent queen of gossip, Lei-lai-zan, also showed up. She was drunk when she left.”

72. **saa4 saa4 gwan2** (灑灑滚), somebody not being stable

“他/她是不可靠的，永远不被信任。”

73. **saap6 haa5 saap6 haa5** (霎霎霎霎霎霎霎霎), silly / absent-minded

“他/她是相当不可靠的。永远不被信任。”

74. **sei2 gu4 gu4** (死咕咕), dull, inflexible

“他做事死气沉沉。完全无法沟通。”

---

30 from Apple Daily (8/10/2004:C8)
75. **sei2 sei2 haa5/2 (死死下), Exhausted**

打完籃球, 全個人都到死死下呐。

I just finished playing basketball. I’m completely exhausted.

76. **so4 so2 dei2 (傻傻地), silly-like**

佢成日話自己係皇帝, 所以個個都話佢傻傻地囉！

S/he always claims that s/he is the king, so people think that he is a bit crazy.

77. **zing6 gai1 gai1 (靜雞雞), quietly**

佢個仔趁佢唔屋企靜靜雞雞偷佢錢呀。

His/her son stole his/her money when s/he is not at home.

78. **zing6 jing1 jing1 (靜英英), quiet**

條街靜靜英英，你一個返屋企要小心呀。

The street is so quiet. Please be careful when you go home by yourself.

---

5. **STATES**

5.1 **QUANTITY**

80. **daai6 laa4 laa4 (大), a little bit**

嘩！大成萬蚊我邊有咁多錢呀?

Wow! Where do I get so much money? It’s ten thousand dollars!

81. **dit1 (gam3) do1 (跌咁多), a little bit**

我好窮！我啲錢得返咁多啖。

I am very poor! I have only a little bit amount of money left.
5.2 PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

82. *baak6 syut1 syut1* (白雪雪), white

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>go3</th>
<th>neoi5</th>
<th>zai2</th>
<th>fai3</th>
<th>min6</th>
<th>baak6</th>
<th>syut1</th>
<th>syut1</th>
<th>hou2</th>
<th>leng3</th>
<th>aa3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

“The skin of her face is very fair. She looks beautiful.”

83. *bin2 tet4 tet4* (扁扁), flat

| go3 | syu1 | baau1 | bin2 | tet4 | tet4 | mat1 | dou1 | mou5 | aa3 |

“The school bag is flat (empty). There is nothing inside.”

84. *bok6 cit1 cit* (薄薄), very thin (non-human)

| gin6 | saaml | bok6 | cit1 | cit1 | m4 | nyun5 | ge2 |

“This (any kind of clothing for the upper-half of the body) is too thin. It can’t keep us warm.”

85. *caau4 mang3 mang3* (皺皺), wrinkled, creased (neg.)

| gin6 | saaml | caau4 | mang3 | mang3 | hou2 | juk6 | syun1 | aa |

“The shirt has creases on it. It doesn’t look good.”

86. *cai4 cap1 cap1* (齊齊), neat, trimmed

| aam1 | aam1 | zin2 | jyun4 | cou2 | go3 | cou2 | deii6 | cai4 | cap1 | cap1 | gam2 | hou2 | leng3 | aa3 |

“I have just mowed the lawn. It looks neat and nice now.”

87. *ceng1 bi1 bi1* (青青), green

| ji2 | deoi3 | haai4 | ceng1 | bi1 | bi1 |

“Oh! No! This pair of shoes is so greenish. I don’t like it.”

88. *coeng4 laai4 laai4* (長長), long

| gin6 | ngoi6 | tou3 | coeng4 | laai4 | laai4 | jyun4-cyun4 | m4 | aam1 | san1 |

“The jacket is too long. It doesn’t fit at all.”

89. *coeng4 coeng2/4 dei2* (長長), a bit long

| neii5 | zung6 | gei3 | m4 | gei3 |

“Do you still remember the female colleageu who has long hair?”
90. *(laang3 dou3) dam2 jat1 seng1 *(靚到) 扯一聲*, very beautiful

“她很漂亮。很多人都想追她。”

91. *daai6 tou5 lam4 dam1* (大肚), being pregnant (esp. at a late stage of the pregnancy)

“她已经怀孕了，而且已经非常危险了。”

92. *faa1 li1* (花呢), colorful

“The clothes are too colorful. They don’t suit your style.”

93. *fei4 tan4* (肥), *(very)* fat / fattish

“That person is already so fat. How come s/he still eats so much?”

94. *gwat6 leoi4* (倔雷槌), blunt

“The cutter is blunt. I can’t cut anything with it.”

95. *gwong1 tyut1* (光), bald

“He has lost his hair and become bald at this young age.”

96. *hak1 maa1* (黑), black / dark

“The room is so dark. How can you work here?”
98. **hong4 dong1 dong3** (紅噹噹), red

件外套紅噹噹，好搶眼呀。

“The jacket is red, which is very eye-catching.”

99. **hong4 tung4 tung4** (紅彤彤), **hong4 dong1 dong3** (紅噹噹), red

其餘全都露出紅彤彤的座墊。

“Other (rooms) had red sitting mats.”

100. **hung4 tung4 tung4** (紅彤彤), **kei4-jyu4 cyun4 dou1 lou6** (紅紅紅紅紅紅), **gin6 ngoi6 tou3** (紅紅), **hong4 dong1 dong3** (紅噹噹), **hung4 tung4 tung4** (紅彤彤), red-outer cover, INTENS, rob-eye, PART

“Other (rooms) had red sitting mats.”

101. **jung4 jung4 laan6 laan6** (熔爛爛), **mui4 mui4 laan6 laan6** (黴黴), worn out, rotten

條褲已經熔爛爛啦，要買過條新嘅。

“His/Her trousers are already worn-out. I have to buy a new pair.”

102. **jyun4 dam4** (doeh4) (圓沊), **jyun4 luk1 luk1** (圓碌碌), round

佢整個面圓圓淰淰成個波咁。

“His/Her face is as round as a ball.”

103. **jyun5 lam4 lam4** (軟淰), soft-ish

個地板蠟蠟拎蠟蠟拎蠟蠟拎，好靚呀。

“The floor is so shiny. It looks great.”

104. **laan6 jung4 jung4** (熔爛爛), **laan6 laan6** (爛熔爛), Worn out, rotten

嘩！間屋爛爛熔爛熔爛熔爛熔爛爛，點住呀？？！

“Oh! The house is so old and worn-out. How can one live there?”

105. **laap3 laap3 ling3** (蠟蠟拎), **ling3 laap3 laap3** (蠟蠟拎), shiny

個地板蠟蠟拎，好靚呀。

“The floor is so shiny. It looks great.”

---

32 from Ming Pao (28/9/2004)
106. *le5 le5 fe5 fe5* (唸唸嘮嘮), messy, untidy

但  但人  喸嘮嘮嘮 難  有  人  請  但  做  啦
keoi5 go3 yan4 gam3 le5 le5 fe5 fe5 naan4 gwaai3 mou5 yan4 ceng2 keoi5 zou6 je5 laa1
3.SG CL person so le5-le5-fe5-fe5, difficult blame no person invite 3.SG do thing PART
“He/she is so messy and untidy. No wonder nobody wants to employ him.”

107. *lou5 nget4 nget4* (老老老老), old

佢  已  經  老老老老  啦，仲  扮  後  生
keoi5 ji5-ging1 lou5 nget4 nget4 laa3, zung6 baan6 hau6-saang1
3.SG already old-nget4-nget4 PART, still pretend young
“S/he is already very old. But she still dresses like a young man/woman.”

108. *lyun6 zou1 zou1* (亂糟糟), messy

佢  間  房  亂糠  亂糠  亂糠  亂糠  唱，叫  佢  妝  啦
keoi5 gaan1 fong2 lyun6 zou1 zou1 gam2 giu3 keoi5 zap1 haa5 je5 laa1
3.SG CL room, mess-untidy-untidy gam2, ask 3.SG tidy-up haa5 thing PART
“His/her room is messy and untidy. Ask her to tidy things up.”

109. *min6 ceng1 ceng1* (面青青), pale

佢  面面  面面  青青  青青  青青  青青  唱，一  定  系  咪  舒
keoi5 min6 ceng1 ceng1 gam3,   must  be  NEG  well  PART
“S/he looks so pale. S/he must be sick.”

110. *mat6 zat1 zat1* (密質質密質質密質質密質質密質質密質質密質質), dense

已  摆  到  密密  質質  質質  質質  質質  啦，放  咪  落  桌  喲
di1 je5 ji5-ging1 baai1 dou3 mat6 zat1 zat1 gaa3 laa1   fong3 m4 lok6 zoeng1 toi2 laa3
CL thing already place dou3 dense-zat1-zat1 PART PART put NEG down CL table PART
“There are already too many things in this place and there is no room for this table.”

111. *mung4 caa4 caa4* (蒙查查), blurred

個  窗  經  一  抹  一  抹  啦
go3 coeng1 mung4 caa4 caa4 laa3,   faai3 di1 maat3 jat1 maat3 laa1
CL window blurred-caa4-caa4 PART, fast di1 wipe one wipe PART
“The window is not clear. Wipe it.”

112. *mou4 sang4 sang4* (毛茸茸), hairy, furry

咦，我  最  害  見  毛茸茸  啲
ji2.. ngo5 zoi1 paa3 gin3 dou2 di1 mou4 sang4 sang4 ge3 je5 gaa3 laa3
INTJ. 1.SG most afraid see dou2 CL hair-sang4-sang4 PART PART PART PART
“Oh! I don’t like seeing hairy things.”

113. *ngaan5 daai6 daai6* (眼大大), with big eyes

個  仔  眼  大  大  啦，好  得  意  呀
go3 naan4 zai2 ngaan5 daai6 daai6 gam2 hou2 dak1-ji3 aa3
CL male little eye-big-big gam2, INTENS cute PART
“The boy has a pair of big eyes. He is so cute.”

114. *ngai2 dat1 dat1* (矮黴黴), very short

？  矮  黴  黴  男  人  就  係  鰲  新  戲  主  角  咦？
Haa1? go1 go3 ngai2 dat1 dat1 ge3 naan4 yan2 zou6 hai6 ceot1 san1 hei3 ge3 zyu2 gok3 laa4?
INTJ. that CL short-dat1-dat1 PART male person zou6 be CL new movie POSS major role PART
“What? That short guy is the leading actor of that new movie?”
115. ngai2 ngai2 dei2 (矮矮地), a bit short

“矮矮地矮矮地矮矮地矮矮地矮矮地...”

116. saan2 sau1 sau1 (散修修), loose

“The papers are all over the place. Tidy them up.”

117. sau3 maang2 maang2 (瘦蜢蜢), skinny

“The little kid is skinny. I bet s/he doesn”t eat much.”

118. sung1 pel4 pel4 (鬆鬆), loose

“Your jeans are so loose. Please don’t wear them!”

119. wong4 gam4 gam4 (黃淦淦), yellow

“This piece of paper has turned yellowish. It must be very old/ It must have been here for a long time.”

120. wu1 lei1/li1 daan1 dou1 (汙喇單叨), messy, dirty

“She never tidy things up. His/her room is very messy and dirty.”

121. wu1 lei1/li1 maa5 caa5 (汙喇馬喳), messy, dirty

“His/her son is very naughty. S/he always draws on the table and makes it dirty.”

122. wu1 zeot1 zeot1 (烏卒卒), dark

“She stood with bare feet on the stone when the photos were taken.”

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33 from Apple Daily (30/9/2004)
123. zoeng4 buk1 buk1 (脹卜葛), bulky, puffy

“Wow! I ate a big meal just now and my tummy is still very full.”

124. zik6 bat1 lat1 (直筆甩), very straight

“His/her domestic helper always irons his clothes and makes them very flat and straight.”

125. hak1 maa1 maa1 (黑媽 媽), black / dark

“It is dark and hard to take a step.”

126. hak1 mang1 mang1 (黑蚊蚊), (very) black / dark

“(Somebody) just sunburned and he/she has already wanted to change the orange fard which he/she uses regularly everyday.”

127. hak1 mil maa1 (黑咪媽), (very) black / dark

“This place where we feed cookies to the dog is very dark, we need a torch to go inside.”

128. hak1 mil mang1 (黑瞇蚊), (very) black / dark

“You can imagine that scene is very dark.”

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34 from Apple Daily (01/3/2008: G01)
35 from Weekend Weekly (01/3/2004: Pg 130)
37 from Oriental Sunday (15/3/2006: Pg 100)
129. *hak1 gu2 lak6 dat6* (黑古勒特)\(^{38}\), with dark and black complexion

黑古勒特

Lau Cing-wan who has a dark complexion acts as a Filipino in the new movie ‘Zyut Sai Hou Ban’.

130. *wu1 zeot1 zeot1* (烏卒卒)\(^{39}\), (very) black

烏卒卒！呢隻蝙蝠咁恐怖嘅！

Wow! This bat is terrible. It is so black!

131. *hung4 dong1 dong6* (紅響噹)\(^{40}\), red

傳統花燈嘅款式紅響噹又娘,

The style of the traditional festive lantern is red and unpopular. It is used during the season only.

132. *hung4 bok1 bok1* (紅卜卜)\(^{41}\), red

揀士多啤梨小貼士: 好簡單, 只要

A small tip to pick a strawberry: it is easy, just pluck one that the whole fruit is red.

133. *hyut3 lam4 lam4* (血淋淋)\(^{42}\), blood red

兇徒拿著血淋淋的兇刀,

The murderer held a blood-red murderous sword, leaving a two-hundred meter blood road at the beginning of the street.

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\(^{38}\) from Oriental Sunday (28/4/2004: Pg 110)

\(^{39}\) from Apple Daily (27/10/2007: G02)

\(^{40}\) from The Sun (31/03/2008: E09)

\(^{41}\) from Ming Pao (23/2/2008: K09)

\(^{42}\) from The Sun (30/3/2008: A02)
134. *baak6 syut1 syut1* (白雪雪), white

皮膚白雪雪嘅Keira Knightley比西班牙

ge3 Keira Knightley compare Spain

Keira Knightley whose complexion is white is more attractive than Penelope Cruz whose complexion is bronze.

135. *baak6 saai4 saai4* (白晒晒), white

戲入面Edison飾演殭屍王子，因爲

電影inside Edison act 超吸人血，搞到塊面白晒晒嘅

Edison act as a vampire prince in the movie, his face turns white because he has not sucked up blood for a long time.

136. *baak6 laai4 saai4* (白賴晒), white

咩都冇白白賴賴晒晒嘅就係Muji，有間條晒係Uniqlo。

When it has nothing but the color white, it is Muji. When it has stripes, it is Uniqlo.

137. *wong4 gam4 gam4* (黃咁咁), yellow

Sony Ericsson W800i潮氣十足，可惜用得一段時間，就會黃咁咁。

Sony Ericsson W800i is very trendy, unfortunately, it will turn yellow in a period of time.

138. *ceng1 bi1 bi1* (青咇咇), light green

凡帶酸嘅都非我所好，尤其係自細

Since I am young

I am not fond of anything that is sour, especially the light-greenish kiwis which I have presumed to be very sour since I am young.
139. **faa1 luk1 luk1** (花碌碌), colorful

The colour trend of the Spring/Summer collection this year will be as colourful as a kaleidoscope.

5.3 TEXTURES and SENSES

141. **"The rock is so irregular. Make sure that you don’t get hurt (when holding it)."**

142. **ceoi3 bok1 bok1** (脆卜卜), crispy

If the tempura crisps are eaten immediately, they will still be crispy.

143. **dung3 bing1 bing1** (凍冰冰), state of very cold (ice-like)

Why are your hands so cold? Are you not feeling feel?

144. **gon1 zang1 zang1** (乾爭爭), dry

The bread is so dry. It doesn’t taste good.

145. **haai4 saap6 saap6** (諧霎霎), rough

His/her skin is so rough. I bet s/he seldom takes care of it.

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48 from Apple Daily (11/3/2008: A13)
49 from Sing Tao Daily (18/5/2007: E04)
50 from Sudden Weekly (1/10/2004)
146. **heng1 piu1 piu1 (輕飄飄)**, light

張紙輕飄飄, 因住怕風吹走啊

zoeng1 z2 heng1-piu1-piu1 jan1 zyu6 keoi5 bei2 fung1 ceoi1 zau2 aa3

CL paper light-flow-flow be-careful 3.SG bei2 wind blow leave PART

“This piece of paper is so light. Make sure that it won"t be blowed away by the breeze.”

147. **hing4 hap6 hap6 (煘煘)**, hot

出面熱到煘煘, 我都唔想出街呀

coot1 min6 jit6 dou3 hing3 hap6 hap6, ngo5 dou1 m4 soeng2 ceoi1 zau1 aa3

outside hot dou3 hot-hap6-hap6, 1.SG dou1 NEG want exit street PART

“It’s so hot out there. I don’t want to go out.”

148. **jit6 laat6/1 laat6/1 (熱熱辣辣)**, state of very hot

碗湯仲熱熱辣辣辣辣辣辣, 快飲

wun2 tong1 zung6jit6 laat6 laat6 gaai3 faai3 di1 jam2 zo2 keoi5 laut1

CL soup still hot-laat6-laat6 PART, fast little drink PERF 3.SG PART

“The soup is still hot. Take it as soon as possible.”

149. **jyun5 laai4 laai4 (軟癩癩)**, To describe one’s body getting “soft” (i.e. tired, not feeling well)

佢覺得好唔舒服, 周身軟軟癩癩癩癩癩,

keoi5 gok3 dak1 INTENS  NEG comfortable, all body soft-laai4-laai4

3.SG feel dak1 INTENS NEG comfortable, all body soft-laai4-laai4

“S/he is feeling very sick and tired/weak.”

150. **lap6 ci1 ci1 (黐黐黐)**, sticky

點解隻杯仲係黐黐黐黐黐黐黐黐, 棟係你未洗乾淨嘅？

dim2-gaai2 zek3 bui1 zung6 hai6 lap6 ci1 ci1 ge2? gang2 hai6 nei5 mei6 sai2 gon1-zeng6 laa1

why CL cup still be sticky-ci1ci1 PART definite be 2.SG not-yet wash clean PART

“Why is the cup still a bit sticky? I’m sure you di dn"t wash it well.”

151. **sap1 det6 det6 (濕濕)**, wet

個地下濕濕濕□□□□□□□□□, 小心靣粘呀

go3 det6-haai2 zek3 bui1 zung6 hai6 lap6 ci1 ci1 ge2? gang2 hai6 nei5 mei6 sai2 gon1-zeng6 laut1

why CL cup still be sticky-ci1ci1 PART definite be 2.SG not-yet wash clean PART

“The floor is very sliperry. Be careful!”

152. **sap1 lap6 lap6 (濕濕)**, wet

哩排啲天氣濕濕, 搞到個人都冇晒心機做嘅！

Li1 paai4 di1 tin1 hei3 sap1 lap6 lap6 gaau2 dou3 go3 jan4 mou5 saai3 sam1-gei1 zou6 je5 aa3

this period CL weather wet-lap6-lap6 make dou3 CL person no saai3 agility do1 thing PART

“The weather is so humid these days. I don’t have any mood to work.”

153. **tau4 cek3 cek3 (頭赤赤)**, feeling a bit dizzy

咁成日野, 依家頭赤赤嘅, 好唔舒服

zou6 zo2 seng4 jat6 je5 j1-gaai1 tau4 cek3 cek3 gam2 hou2 m4 syu1-fuk6
do PERF whole day, now head-cek3-cek3 gam2 INTENS NEG comfortable

“Having worked for the whole day, I’ve got a headache now. I am feeling very uncomfortable.

154. **tau4 wan4 wan4 (頭暈暈)**, feeling dizzy

哩排佢成日見頭暈暈嘅, 好多d休息喇

le11 paai4 keoi5 seng4 jat6 gin3 tau4 wan4 wan4 gam2, giu3 keoi5 do1 di1 jau1 sik1 laa1

this period 3.SG whole day see head faint faint gam2 ask 3.SG many little rest PART

“S/he always feels dizzy these days. Tell him to rest more.”
155.  

**waat6 lyut1 lyut1** (滑細膩), state of very smooth

但喺啲皮膚滑細膩呀!  
keoi5 di1 pei4-fu1 waat6 lyut1 lyut1 hou2 leng3 aa3  
3.SG POSS skin smooth-lyut1-lyut1, INTENS pretty PART

“Her skin is so soft and tender. It is very attractive.”

156.  

**waat6 saan4 saan4** (滑溜溜), unpleasantly slippery

喺魚滑溜溜啲, 我勁驚呀!  
di1 jyu4 waat6 saan4 saan4 gam3, ngo5 ging6 geng1 aa1  
the fish smooth-saan4-saan4 gam3, 1.SG very afraid PART

“The fish is slippery. I am very afraid of it.”

157.  

**wan4 to4 to4** (暈陀陀), swaying and feeling dizzy

袁潔儀攬住男觀眾, 嘅都暈陀陀陀陀陀陀陀陀  
jyun4-git3-ji4 laam5 zyu2 naam4 gun1-zung3, din6 dou3 deoi3-fong1 wan4 to4 to4  
Jyun-git-ji hold ASP male audience, attract dou3 partner dizzy-to4-to4

“Jyun-git-ji made the male audience feel very excited when she hugged him.”

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5.4 EMOTIONS

158.  

**faat3 ti4 tan4** (發發), to get agitated, feeling uneasy/restless

聽日佢會去考試, 所以係度發發晒晒囉囉  
ting1-jat6 keoi5 wui5 heoi3 haau2-si5, so2-ji5 haai2 dou6 faat3 saai3 ti4 tan4 lo1  
tomorrow 3.SG will go examination, so be here faat3-saai3-ti4-tan4 PART

“S/he is sitting for an exam tomorrow, so s/he is getting agitated now.”

159.  

**gu1 ling1 ling1** (孤零零), lonely

個女仔孤零零啲, 無人照顧呀!  
go3 neoi5 zai2 gu1 ling1 ling1 gam3, mou5 jan4 ziu3-gu3 hou2 ho2-lin4 aa3  
CL girl little lonely-ling1-ling1 gam3, not-have person care INTENS pitiful PART

“The girl is orphaned and nobody takes care of her. What a pity!”

160.  

**hei3 gu2 gu2** (氣鼓鼓), to be angry

連他們氣鼓鼓的神情都一模一樣  
lin4 saa1-mon4 hei3 gu2 gu2 diki1 san4-cing4 dou1 jat1-mou4-jat1-joeng6  
still 3.PL gas-gu2-gu diki1 expression dou1 same

“They looked so much alike even when they got angry.”

161.  

**lo1 lo1 lyun1** (囉囉), being disturbed, being worried, feeling uneasy

聽日佢會去面試, 所以個心囉囉囉囉  
ting1 jat6 keoi5 wui5 heoi3 ming6 si5 so2-ji5 go3 saa1 lo1 lo1 lyun1 aa3  
tomorrow 3.SG will go face test, so CL heart lo1 lo1 lyun1 PART

“S/he will attend an interview tomorrow, so she is feeling very worried.”

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51 from Apple Daily (30/9/2004)  
52 from Apple Daily (2/10/2004:C10)  
53 from Apple Daily (10/10/2004)
162. *mang2 mang2 zang2 zang2* (仗仗憎憎), losing temper, getting angry, agitated

```
keoi5 faan4-can1 do1 je5 zou6 sau6 wui5 mang2 mang2 zang2 zang2 gam2 gaa3 laa3
```

3.SG whenever many thing do zu6 will mang2 mang2 zang2 zang2 gam2 PART PART

“He/she always loses temper, no one dare talk to him/her.”

163. *ngaan5 sap1 sap1* (眼湿湿), starting to cry

```
dong1-min6 dou6 hip3 si4 ting4-fung1 gang3 ngaan5 sap1 sap1
```

_ting-fung was almost weeping when he apologized (to Mr. Wong) face-to-face._

164. *ngong6 geoi1 geoi1* (戇居居), Being at a loss to know what to do

```
```

“The boy looks dull and stupid, so no girls like him.”

165. *nau1 baau3 baau3* (嬲爆爆), angry

```
keoi5 gam1 jat6 seng4 jat6 dou1 nau1 baau3 baau3 gam2 m4 zi1 bin1-go3 gik1 keoi5 ne1
```

3.SG today whole day also angry-explode-explode NEG know who provoke can1 3.SG PART

“S/he has been upset for the whole day. Who provoked him/her again?”

166. *siu3 mi1 mi1* (笑咪咪), to smile slightly

```
can4-sau3-zyu1 daai3 tai2-si2 tai2 sau1 siu3 mi1 mi1
```

“Chan Sau Chu brought the “Prince” with her and watched the show happily.”

167. *zeoi2 miu5 miu5* (嘴藐藐), moving the lips to show hatred, indifference/look down upon somebody

```
siu2-ci4-wing4-zi2 zak1 biu2-cing4 do1 do1, lin4 gan1 se5 zeng2 hap6
```

Siu-ci-wing-zI then expressions many many, even with company head together

“Siu-ci-wing-zI had lots of facial expressions. She even raised her lips and looked indifferent when she took a picture with her boss”

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54 from Apple Daily (27/9/2004)
55 from Apple Daily (11/10/2004:C12)
56 from Apple Daily (30/9/2004:C33)
5.5 TASTES

168. *fu2 fu2 gip3 gip3* (苦苦澀澀苦苦澀澀苦苦澀澀苦苦澀澀), a bit / too bitter

```
The syrup (medicine) was bitter and the kid refused to take it.
```

169. *haam4 haam2 dei2* (鹹鹹地), a bit/ too salty

```
Why does the water taste salty? It doesn’t taste good at all.
```

170. *syun1 mei1 mei1* (酸瞇瞇), a bit sour

```
The mangoes are a bit sour. Don’t try them.
```

171. *taam5 mau6 mau6* (淡茂茂), almost tasteless

```
The congee is tasteless. I doesn’t taste good at all.
```

172. *tim4 je4 je4* (甜椰椰), a bit sweet

```
The candies are too sweet. Don’t eat too much or you’ll have tooth decay.
```

173. *tim4 si1 si1* (甜絲絲), sweet

```
Her father, who is faraway from her, is very happy for he knows his daughter misses him very much.
```

174. *cau3 bang1bang1* (臭崩崩), stinky

```
Hong Kong people smell good, Chinese people smell bad.
```

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57 from Ming Pao (27/9/2004)
175. fu2 gwo3 di2 di2 (苦過 d d)°, bitter

掉頭 想走 卻早已被媽媽夾鼻子，把一碗
diu6 tiu4 soeng2 zau2 koek3 zou2 ji5 bei6 maa1 maa1 gaap3 bei6 zi2 baa2 jat1wun2
change head want leave but already ASP mother clip nose put one CL

苦過 D D 的廿四味都灌進肚子。

fu2 gwo3 di2 di2 dik1 ya3 sei3 mei6 dou1 gun3 zeon3 tou5 zi2
Bitter-gwo3-di2-di2 INTENS pour into stomach

‘While I am turning about to leave, my nose is already caught by my mother and a bowl of agency-24 is poured into
my mouth.’

176. syun1 lau6 lau6 (酸溜溜)°, sour

酸溜溜零食解新春膩滯。
syun1 lau6 lau6 ling4 sik6 gai2 san1 ceon1 nei6 zai6
Sour-lau6-lau6 snack relieve Lunar New Year greasy

‘Snack with sour taste helps relieving the greasy after the Lunar New Year.’

5.6 ODOURS

177. cau4 bang1 bang1 (臭崩崩), stinky

個洗手法間臭崩崩，搵人洗洗啦
go3 sai2 sau2 guan1 cau3 bang1 bang1 gam2 wan2 jan4 sai2 sai2 laa1
CL wash hand room stink-bang1-bang1 gam2, call person wash wash PART

“The washroom is somewhat stinky. Get somebody to clean it.”

178. hoeng1 pan3 pan3 (香噴噴), fragrant, good smell of food

啲麵包香噴噴一定好好食
di1 min6-baa1 hoeng1 pan3 pan3 jat1-ding6 hou2 hou2 sik6
CL bread fragrant-spray-spray must good good eat

“The bread smells so good. It must be very delicious.”

179. sou1 hang1 hang1 (臭亨亨)°, stinky

污糟糟，臭亨亨

wu1 zou1 zou1 cau3 hang1 hang1
dirty bad bad stink-hang1-hang1

‘(Somebody or something) is dirty and smelly.’

---

° From Online Website – Sunny8.com http://lamng.sunny8.cn/p/14858
180. jyun1 bang1 laan6 cau3 (冤崩爛臭)\(^{61}\), very stinky

In a party, unexpectedly every participant is extremely stinky and yet they rather enjoy that.”

181. syun1 syun1 suk1 suk1 (酸酸縮縮), musty smell

“To minimize this musty smell, the ventilating shaft has to be kept adequately ventilated often.’

182. seng1 wan1 wan1 (腥溫溫), fishy smell

‘Food with raw smell of fish or seafood is my favorite.’

6. OTHERS:

183. buk1 buk1 ceoi3 (卜卜脆)\(^{63}\), crispy

“He said that the cooked fresh pepper was crispy.”

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\(^{61}\) From the Sun
\(^{62}\) From Online Magazine - motoratnext.com
\(^{63}\) from Sudden Weekly (1/10/2004)
184. **cou4 hyun1 baa1 bai3** (嘈喧巴閉)⁶⁴, making noise

keoi5 gam2 cou4 hyun1 baa1 bai3
3. SG INTENS noisy-hyun1-ba1-bai3

“S/he is so noisy.”

185. **cyun3 cyun3 gung3** (串串共串), not being friendly

keoi5 seng4 jat6 cyun3 cyun3 gung3 gam2, mou5 jan4 seng2 tung4 keoi5 gong2 je5
3.5G whole day cyun3-cyun3-gung3 gam2, not-have person want tung4 3.5G talk thing

“S/he always sounds pushy and cocky. No one wants to talk to him/her.”

186. **daan6 daan6 tiu3** (彈的跳), jumping

same round special present “daan6-daan6-jump” and other booth

“There was a jumping game for children to play and other games for the family to enjoy.”

187. **fi4 li1 fe4 le4** (喇啤哩), reflecting the sound of something watery coming out in a vigorous manner

keoi5 gong2 je5 go2 zan6 dii hau2 seoi2 fi4-li1-fe4-le4 gam2 pan3 ceoi1 lei4, gei2 m4 wai6 sang1 aa3
3.5G talk thing that while CL mouth water fi4-li1-fe4-le4 spray out come, INTENS NEG hygienic PART

“His saliva spat out as he talked. That’s so unhygienic.”

188. **hak1 gu2 lak6 dat6** (黑古勒突), with somewhat dark complexion

keoi5 dii pei4-fu1 hak1 gu2 lak6 dat6 gam2, jat1-ding6 seng4 jat6 keoi3 jau4-seoi2 laa3
3.5G POSS skin black-dark-lak6-dat6 gam2, must whole day go swim water PART

“His/her complexion is so dark. I bet s/he always goes swimming.”

189. **hi1 hi1 haa1 haa1** (嘻啱嘻啱), playing all the time, not being serious

cing1-siu2-lin4 dik1 saul-jap6 da1l, ping4-si4 hi1 hi1 haa1 haa1 teenager dik1 income low, always hei1-hei1-haa1-haa1

“Teens do not earn much money. They spend most of their time playing.”

190. **jat1 geoi3 geoi3** (一句句), repeatedly (weeping)

Hung-zi reborn dou1 cry dik1 one-sentence-sentence

“Even if Hung-zi were reborn, he would still have no solution (to the problem).”

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⁶⁴ from Apple Daily (18/10/2004)  
⁶⁵ from Apple Daily (30/9/2004)  
⁶⁶ from Apple Daily (12/10/2004)  
⁶⁷ from Ming Pao (5/10/2004)
191. *ji1 waa1 gwai2 giu3* (依嘩鬼叫), shouting wildly

The female viewers in Shun De shouted wildly because Tou-tai-yu’s presence.

192. *laa4 laa2 seng1* (蹦蹦聲), to hurry up, quickly

Finish your work as soon as possible and come to see me in my office.

193. *nauu6 hung6 hung6* (鬧哄哄), crowded

There were many people in the Arrivals Hall.

194. *ngok3 sei2 nang4 dang1* (惡死能登), being fierce

The guy looks fierce and offensive, so no girl likes him.

195. *pung3 pung3 ce1* (碰碰車), collision car

S/he went BBQ and played collision car.

196. *saang1 ngau1 ngau1* (生勾勾), alive

People who are alive and still think that life is interesting will not choose to go camping alone.

197. *saa4 saa4 gwan2* (沙沙沙), to date with many people, especially the opposite sex

It is hard to predict whether Robbie will settle down because he used to date with many different girls.

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68 from Apple Daily (2/10/2004:C10)
69 from Apple Daily (27/9/2004)
70 from Apple Daily (18/10/2004)
71 from Metro News (6/10/2004)
72 from Apple Daily (18/10/2004)
198. **sam1 juk1 juk1 (心郁郁), eager to do something**

我成日都心郁郁想去买部手机
ngo5 seng4 jat6 dou1 sam1 juk1 juk1 soeng2 heoi3 maai5 go2 bou6 sau2 gei1
1.SG whole day dou1 heart-unstable-unstable want go buy that CL hand machine
“I have also been wanting to buy that mobile phone.”

199. **sam1 si1 si1 (心思思), eager to do something, being disturbed**

我成日都心思思想去机铺打机
ngo5 seng4 jat6 dou1 sam1-si1-si1 soeng2 heoi3 gei- pou2 daa2 gei1
1.SG whole day dou1 heart-think-think want go game-shop hit machine
“I always want to go to the video game center to play video games.”

200. **zaa4 zaa4 lam4 (咋咋臨), to hurry up**

你咋咋臨做完啲功課，然後即刻去溫書
nei5 zaa4 zaa4 lam4 zou6 jyun4 di1 gung1 fo3 jin4-hau6 zik1-haak1 heoi3 wan1 syu1
2.SG zaa4-zaa4-lam4 do finish CL homework, then immediately go revise books
“You should finish your homework as soon as possible and then do some revision immediately afterwards.”
PART II MORPHOLOGICAL CATEGORIES OF CANTONESE IDEOPHONES

1. AA

1. \textit{ding1 ding1} (叮叮), tram in Hong Kong

我最钟意搭\textit{叮叮叮叮叮叮叮叮}交 通  工具  就係\textit{叮叮叮叮 喲}.

\text{ngo5 zeoi3 zung1-ji3 daap3 ge3 gaa1-tung1 gung1-geoi6 zu6 hai6 ding1 ding1 laal}

1.SG most love take POSS transport tool zu6 be \text{tram} PART

“Tram is my favorite public transport.”

2. \textit{meou1 meou1} (喵喵), cat / sound made by a cat

隻\text{猫}成日\textit{喵喵喵喵喵喵喵喵}.

\text{zek3 miu4 seng4 jaat6 meou1 meou1 gam3 giu3, hou2 faan4 aa1}

CL cat all day \textit{meou1 meou1} gam3 meow, INTENS annoying PART

“The cat always keeps on meowing, which is very annoying.”

3. \textit{wou1 wou1} (汪汪), dog / sound made by a dog

妈咪\text{会}买\text{给我}只\textit{汪汪}

\text{maa1-mi4 seng4 jat6 wou1 wou1 gau2 bei2 ngo5 zou6 saang1-jat6 lat5-maat6 aa3}

CL mother say will CL \textit{wou1-wou1} dog give 1.SG as birthday give PART

“Mummy said she”ll buy me a dog for my birthday.”

2. AB

4. \textit{baa1 zaa1} (巴渣), talkative (neg.)

佢係一\text{个}好\textit{巴渣 巴渣 巴渣}, 好\text{无}礼\text{貌}嘅\text{女}仔

\text{keoi5 hai6 jaat1 go3 hou2 baa1 zaa1, hou2 mou4 lat5-maat6 ge3 neoi5 zai2}

3.SG be one CL INTENS \textit{baa1 zaa1}, INTENS NEG courtesy PART girl little

“She is a very talkative and impolite girl”.

5. \textit{caat3 laa3} (嚓喇): sound made when something passes through a hole perfectly

籃球\textit{嚓喇嚓喇}一聲擦\text{过}篮球

\text{laam4 kau4  “caat3 laa3” jaat1 sing1 caat3 gwo3 laam4 baan2}

basket ball “\textit{caat3-laa3}” one sound pass through basket board

“The basketball passed through the net perfectly.”

6. \textit{ding1 dong3} (叮噹), sound of door bell

做乜個門\text{钟} 成日\textit{叮噹 叮噹 叮噹} 喲 喲,

\text{zou6 mat1 go3 mun4 zung1 seng4 jaat6 ding1 dong3 ding1 dong3 gam2 hoeng2 ge2?}

Do what CL \text{door bell} all day \textit{ding1 dong3 ding1 dong3} gam2 ring PART

“Why is the doorbell keep ringing?”

\text{73 from Ming Pao (27/9/2004: A23)}
7.  gwaai3 gai1 (怪雞), strange
梁嘉傑演得很怪雞
loeng4-gaa1-git6 jin5 dak1 han2 gwaai3-gai1
Loeng-gaa-git act dak1 INTENS strange
“Loeng-gaa-git acted very strangely.”

8.  ke4 le4 (騎呢), behaving awkwardly
原來他影相時最鍾意整蠱做怪.
jyun4-loi4 taa1 jing2 soeng3 si4 zoei3 zung1-jii3 zing2-ga2-zou6-gwaai3, jing6-zan1 ke4 le4
actually 3.SG take photos when most like do-funny-things, very ride-le4
“Actually, he always likes to do funny things when he takes photos. This is really strange.”

3.  ABC
9.  (laang3 dou3) dam2 jat1 seng1 ((靚到) 抡一轉), very beautiful
個女仔靚到一轉人都想追佢
go3 neo15 zai2 leng3 dou3 dam2 jat1 seng1, jan4 jan4 dou1 soeng2 zoei1 keoi5
CL girl little beauty-dou3-dam2-one-sound, person person also want chase 3.SG
“The girl is very beautiful. Many people want to chase after her.”

10.  dit1 (gam3) do1 (跌咁多), a little bit
我好窮！我啲錢得返咁咁多
ngo5 hou2 kung4 gaa3 ngo5 di1 cin2 dak1 faan1 dit1 gam3 do1 zaa3
1.SG INTENS poor PART! 1.SG dil money dak1 back dit1 (gam3)-do1 PART
“I am very poor! I have only a little bit amount of money left.”

11.  faat3 ti4 tan4 (發發), to get agitated, feeling uneasy/restless
聽日佢會去考試, 所以係度發發.
ting1-jat6 keoi5 wai5 hooi3 haa2-sti5 so2-ji5 hai2 dou6 faat3 saai3 ti4 tan4 lal1
tomorrow 3.SG will go examination, so be here faat3-saai3-ti4-tan4 PART
“S/he is sitting for an exam tomorrow, so s/he is getting agitated now.”

12.  gwat6 leoi4 ceoi4 (倔靚), blunt
把刀倔靚咁唔到
bau2 gaa3-dou1 gwaat6 leoi4 ceoi4 gam2 gaa3 m4 dou3 je5 wo3
CL cutter blunt-leoi4-leoi4, gam2 cut NEG dou3 thing PART
“The cutter is blunt. I can’t cut anything with it.”

13.  jyun4 dam4 (doeh4) (圓秧( )), jyun4 luk1 luk1 (圓碌碌), round
佢塊面圓秧成個波
keoi5 faai3 min6 jyun4 dam4 doeh4 seng4 go3 bo1 gam2
3.SG CL face round-dam4-doeh4 whole CL ball gam2
“His/Her face is as round as a ball.”

74 Example from Ming Pao (28/9/2004)
75 from Apple Daily (30/9/2004)
14. **mou4 lei4 tau4 (無里頭)**

早已變得神經錯亂，無里頭。

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無里頭，illogical

并因外流内流而散失功力

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“(They) could only think illogically and lose their powers.”

無里頭，錯誤的劇情，其實涉及江湖。

---

The drama had unpredictable themes, which were related to the gangster-society, Hung-mun, ancestral temple, Dr. Sun, and Hing-zung-wui.”

15. **zik6 bat1 lat1 直筆甩**

直筆甩，very straight

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“His/her domestic helper always irons his clothes and makes them very flat and straight.”

16. **baang4 baang4 seng1 (嘭嘭聲)**

baang4 baang4 seng1 (嘭嘭聲): increasing rapidly

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“Michael has recently been dealing with many court cases which cost him a fortune. And that might be the reason why he thinks of Nicole, whose career is at its pinnacle.”

17. **bail bail de2 (跛跛地)**

bail bail de2 (跛跛地), crippled

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“Ever since the dog was knocked down by a car, it has been crippled and has not been able to run.”

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6 from Ming Pao (28/9/2004)

77 from Sudden Weekly (1/10/2004)
18. **bang1 bang1 tiu3** (蹦蹦跳), jumping around

瑶瑶一马当先排在最前，见到爹哋即蹦蹦跳跳走出
jiu4 jiu4 jat1-maa5-dong1-sin1 pau4 zoi6 ceoi3 cin4, gin3 dou3 de1-di4 zik1 bang1 bang1 tiu3zau2 ceoi1-loi4
Jiu-jiu fastest line-up at most up-front, see dou3 father immediately **baang6-baang6-jump** run out
“Jiu-jiu lined up at the most first position. She jumped to her father immediately when she saw him.”

19. **bel1 bel1 gung3** (啤啤賣), staring

做咩啤啤賣呀，想打交呀？
zou6 me1 bel1 bel1 gung3 aal1, soeng2 daal-gaaau1 aal
do what stare-stare-gung3 PART want fight PART
“What are you staring at? You want to have a fight?”

20. **bing4 bing4 tiu3** (砰砰跳), beating (usually of heart)

人心跟着砰砰跳跳过了半夜
jan4 sam1 gan1 zoe6 bing4 bing4 tiu3, tiu3 gwo3 liu5 bun3-je6
human heart follow **bing4-bing4-jump**, jump over PART mid-night
“The hearts of people were bouncing. They did not even slow down after mid-night.”

21. **buk1 buk1 ceoi3** (卜卜脆), crispy

他說炒香了的新鮮胡椒咬來卜卜脆
taa1 syut3 hoeng1 liu5 dik1 san1-sin1 wu4-ziu1 ngaau5 lo4 buk1 buk1 ceoi3
3.SG say cook fresh pepper bite **buk1-buk1-crispy**
“He said that the cooked fresh pepper was crispy.”

22. **coeng4 coeng2/4 dei2** (長長地), a bit long

你仲記唔記得，長長地頭髮個女同事呀?
zei5 gei3 m4 gei3 dak1 coeng4-coeng4-dei2 tau4 faat3 go2 go3 neoi5 tung4-ziu6 aa3?
2.SG still remember-NEG-remember dak1 long-long-ish head hair that CL female colleague PART
“Do you still remeber the female colleauge who has long hair?”

23. **cyun3 cyun3 gung3** (串串共), not being friendly

佢成日串串共無人想同佢講
deko5 seng4 jat6 cyun3 cyun3 gung3 gam2, mou5 jan4 soeng2 tung4 keoi5 gong2 je5
3.SG whole day **cyun3-cyun3-gung3**, gam2, not-have person want talk **tung4 3.SG talk**
“S/he always sounds pushy and cocky. No one wants to talk to him/her.”

24. **daan6 daan6 tiu3** (彈彈跳), jumping

同場特備“彈彈跳”及各種攤位
* tung4 coeng4 dake6 be1 “daan6-daan6-tiu3” kap6 gok3-zung2 taan1-wai2
 same round special present “daan6-daan6-jump” and **daan6-daan6-jump** and other booth
遊戲以供一家大細共同玩樂
* jau4-hei3 ji5-gung1 jat-gaat1-daau6-sai3 gung6-tung6 wun6-lok6
 game for-the-whole-family together play
“There was a jumping game for children to play and other games for the family to enjoy.”

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78 from Sudden Weekly (1/10/2004)
79 from Apple Daily (28/9/2004)
80 from Sudden Weekly (1/10/2004)
81 from Apple Daily (30/9/2004)
25. *dik6 dik6 zai2* (滴滴仔), a way of playing table tennis

I like to play with *dik6-dik6-zai2* style when I play table tennis.

26. *diu4 diu2 fing6* (吊吊口), hanging loosely (about to fall down)

The rope is hanging loosely. Fasten it.

27. *gwaai1 gwaai1 giu3* (呱呱叫呱呱叫呱呱叫呱呱叫), shouting / yelling / talking loudly

*(S/he) spoke with fluent Shanghai dialect.*

28. *gwaai3 gwaai2 dei2* (乖乖地乖乖地乖乖地乖乖地), well-behaved-like

You should be good and finish all of your homework.

29. *gwaai3 gwaai2 dei2* (怪怪地怪怪地怪怪地怪怪地), strange

His/her voice sounds strange. Is s/he having a cold?

30. *haa1 haa1 siu3* (哈哈笑), laughing

S/he is laughing all the time. S/he doesn’t look serious.

31. *haam4 haam2 dei2* (鹹鹹地), a bit/ too salty

Why does the water taste salty? It doesn’t taste good at all.

32. *laa2 laa2 dei2* (地), girly-like (to describe male)

He behaves girly-like. That’s so horrible.

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82 from Ming Pao (4/10/2004)
33. laa4 laa2 seng1 (聲)/ baang4 baang2 seng1 (蹦蹦聲), to hurry up, quickly
你        聲 做完 喲 , 然後 我 房 見 我 呀
nei5 laa4 laa2 seng1 zou6 lyun4 di1 je5 jin4 hau6 jap6 lei4 ngo5 fong2 gin3 ngo5 aa3
2.SG laa4-laa2-seng1 do finish CL thing, then enter come 1.SG room see 1.SG PART
“Finish your work as soon as possible and come to see me in my office.”

34. laap3 laap3 ling3 (蠟蠟拎)/ ling3 laap3 laap3 (拎蠟蠟), shiny
個 地 板 蠟 蠟 梳 好 靚 呀
go3 dei6 baan2 laap3 laap3 ling3 hou2 leng3 aa3
CL floor laap3-laap3-ling3, INTENS beautiful PART
“The floor is so shiny. It looks great.”

35. lo1 lo1 lyun1 (囉囉), being disturbed, being worried, feeling uneasy
聽 日 佢 會 去 面 試 , 所以 個 心 囉囉 囉囉 囉囉 囉囉 囉囉 呀
ting1 jat6 keoi5 wui5 heoi3 min6 si5 so2-ji5 go3 sam1 lo1 lo1 lyun1 aa3
tomorrow 3.SG will go face test, so CL heart lo1-lo1-lyun1 PART
“S/he will attend an interview tomorrow, so she is feeling very worried.”

36. lung4 lung2/4 dei2 (聾聾地), a bit deaf
你 講 大 聲 , 但 聾 聾 聾 聾 聾 地地 地地 地地
nei5 gong2 daai6 seng1, di1 keoi5 lung4 lung2 dei2 gaa3
2.SG speak big sound little, 3.SG deaf-deaf-dei2 PART
“You have to speak louder. S/he is a bit deaf.”

37. maa4 maa2 dei2 (麻麻地), not bad, not so good, so so, okay…etc.
我 覺 得 呢 個 蛋 糕 麻 麻 地 好 食 唔 , 上 次 個 好 好 多
ngo5 go3 dak1 ni1 go3 daan6 gou1 maa4 maa2 dei2 hou2 sik6 zek1 soeng6 ci3 go2 go3 hou2 hou2 do1
1.SG feel dak1 this CL egg cake maa4 maa2 dei2 good eat PART up time that CL good good many
“This cake doesn’t taste good. The one I ate last time was far better.”

38. mun6 mun2/6 dei2 (悶悶地), feeling a bit bored
通 常 我 悶 悶 地 吤 時 候 就 會 睇 書 唔
tung1-soeng4, ngo5 mun6 mun2 dei2 ge3 si4-hau6 zau6 wui5 tai2 syu1 lo1
usually, 1.SG bored-bored-dei2 PART time zau6 will read book PART
“I usually read books when I feel bored.”

39. ngai2 ngai2 dei2 (矮矮地), a bit short
呢 矮 矮 地 個 呢 係 我 細 佬 唔
di2…ngai2 ngai2 dei2 go2 go3 mai4 hai6 ngo5 sai3-lou2 lo1
INTJ. short-short-dei2 that CL PART be 1.SG brother PART
“See that short guy there? That’s my brother.”

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40. *pe1 pe1 fu1* (啤啤夫), swaying

近排啲新聞女王李麗珍亦有出席，
gan2-paa4 ge3 san1-man4 neoi5 wong4 lei5-lai6-zan1 jik6 jau5 coel1-zik6，
recently ge3 news female king Lei-lai-zan also have show-up，

重飲到啤啤夫先走
zung6 jam2 dou3 pe1 pe1 fu1 sin1 zau2
even drink dou3 pe1-pe1-fu1 then leave

“The recent queen of gossip, Lei-lai-zan, also showed up. She was drunk when she left.”

41. *pung3 pung3 ce1* (碰碰車), collision car

佢喺正日個晚去BBQ，順便玩碰碰車
keoi5 hai2 zing-jat6-go3-maan5 heoi3 BBQ，seon6-bin6 wun6 pung3 pung3 ce1
3.SG at particular-night go BBQ, also play collide-collide-car

“S/he went BBQ and played collision car.”

42. *saa4 saa4 gwan2* (灑灑滾), somebody not being stable

唔知成日沙沙沙沙沙沙滚滚嘅Robbie，呢鋪會唔會定性
m4 zi1 sing-jat6 saa4 saa4 gwan2 ge3 Robbie, nei1 pou1 wui6 m4 wui6 ding6-sing3
NEG know always sand-sand-gwan2 ge3 Robbie, this time will NEG will settle-down

“It is hard to predict whether Robbie will settle down because he used to date with many different girls.”

43. *sei2 sei2 haa5* (死死下), Exhausted

周永恆得悉阿Yu有意約他賞花
zau1-wing5-hang4 hang4 dau1 sik1 aa3 Yu jau5 jik3 taal1 soengg2 faa1
Zau-wing-hang know ah Yu have idea ask 3.SG appreciate flower

“When Zau-Wing-Hang was told that Yu might ask him out to see lanterns, he smiled and said he would go if she asked.”
46. *so4 so2 dei2* (傻傻地), silly-like  
佢成日話自己係皇帝, 所以個個都話佢傻傻地囉！
S/he always claims that s/he is the king, so people think that he is a bit crazy.

47. *syut4 syut4 seng1* (雪雪), noise made when somebody eats  
怪不得一向怕食生蛋的我都吃到雪雪雪雪雪雪啦。
No wonder I still find them delicious, even though I usually hate raw eggs.

48. *tiu3 tiu3 zaat3* (跳跳紮), jumping around  
換來是一位跳跳紮紮的六歲男童
“A six-year-old boy, who liked to jump everywhere, was employed instead.”

49. *zaa4 zaa4 lam4* (咋咋臨), to hurry up  
門鉸生銹咋咋咋咋聲聲,
“There is a creaking sound coming from the rusted door hinge.”

50. *zi1 zi1 seng1* (吱吱聲), creaking sound  
門鉸生銹吱吱聲
“There is a creaking sound coming from the rusted door hinge.”

51. *zi4 zi4 zam4* (吱吱聲), whispering / talking  
兩個人不時匿埋一邊吱吱聲,
“These two people always hide somewhere and whisper to each other.”

52. *baak6 syut1 syut1* (白雪雪), white  
個女仔塊面白雪雪好靚呀
“The skin of her face is very fair. She looks beautiful.”

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87 from Sudden Weekly (1/10/2004)  
88 from Apple Daily (12/10/2004)  
89 from Sudden Weekly (1/10/2004)  
90 from Sudden Weekly (1/10/2004)
53. **bin2 tet4 tet4 (扁□□), flat**
   
   個 書 包 扁 □ □ , 乜 都 無 呀  
   go3 syu1 bau1 bin2 tet4 tet4 mat1 dou1 mou5 aa3  
   CL book bag flat-tet4-tet4, thing dou1 not-have PART  
   “The school bag is flat (empty). There is nothing inside.”

54. **bok6 cit1 cit (薄切切), very thin (non-human)**
   
   件 衫 薄 切 切 ...唔 暖 咦  
   gin6 saam1 bok6 cit1 cit1 m4 nyun5 ge2  
   CL clothes thin-cit1-cit1, NEG warm PART  
   “This (any kind of clothing for the upper-half of the body) is too thin. It can’t keep us warm.”

55. **caau4 mang3 mang3 (皺 ), wrinkled, creased (neg.)**
   
   件 衫 皺 皺 件 衫 皺 皺 件 衫 皺 皺  
   gin6 saam1 caau4 mang3 mang3 hou2 juk6 -syun1 aa  
   CL clothes wrinkle-mang3-mang3, INTENS ugly PART  
   “The shirt has creases on it. It doesn’t look good.”

56. **cai4 cap1 cap1 (齊齊), neat, trimmed**
   
   稀 稀 稀 稀 剪 完 草, 個 草 地 齊齊 齊齊  
   jai2 deoi3 haai4 cai4 cap1 cap1 gam2 hou2 leng3 aa3  
   just cut finish grass, CL grass ground neat-cap1-cap1 gam2, INTENS beautiful PART  
   “I have just mowed the lawn. It looks neat and nice now.”

57. **cau4 bang1 bang1 (臭崩崩), stinky**
   
   個 洗 手 間 臭 崩 崩 啦, 搵 人 洗 洗 啦  
   go3 sai2 sau2 gaa1 caau4 bang1 bang1 gam2 laa1  
   CL wash hand room stink-bang1-bang1 gam2, call person wash wash PART  
   “The washroom is somewhat stinky. Get somebody to clean it.”

58. **ceng1 bi1 bi1 (青青), green**
   
   咦! 對 鞋 青 咻 咻 咻 咻 咻 咻 , 好 肉 酸 呀!  
   ji2 deoi3 haai4 ceng1 bi1 bi1 gam2...hou2 juk6 syun1 aa3  
   INTJ pair shoe green-bi1-bi1 gam2...INTENS meat sour PART  
   “Oh! No! This pair of shoes is so greenish. I don’t like it.”

59. **ceoi3 bok1 bok1 (脆卜卜), crispy**
   
   天 婦 罹 碎 即 刻 食 時 脆 卜卜  
   tin1-fu5-lo4 seoi3 zik1-hak1 sik6 si4 ceoi3 bok1 bok1  
   tempura crisps immediately eat time crispy-bok1-bok1  
   “If the tempura crisps are eaten immediately, they will still be crispy.”

60. **coeng4 laai4 laai4 (長癩癩), long**
   
   件 外 套 長 癩 癩 完 全 咻 身  
   gin6 ngoi6 tou3 coeng4 laai4 laai4 jyun4-cyun4 m4 aam1 san1  
   CL outer cover long-laai4-laai4, completely NEG fit body  
   “The jacket is too long. It doesn’t fit at all.”

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91 from Sudden Weekly (1/10/2004)
61. daai6 laa4 laa4 (大大), a little bit

嘩! 大 大 成 萬 蚊 我 邊 有 咁 多 錢 呀?
waa3! daai6 laa4 laa4 seng4 man6 man1... ngo5 bin1 jau5 gam3 do1 cin2 aa3?
INTJ big-laa4-laa4 whole ten-thousand dollar 1.SG where have so many money PART
“Wow! Where do I get so much money? It’s ten thousand dollars!”

62. dung3 bing1 bing1 (凍冰冰), state of very cold (ice-like)

點 解 你 隻 手 凍 冰 冰 ？係 咁 吳 舒服 呀?
dim2-gaa2 nei5 zei3 sau2 dung3 bing1 bing1 ge2? hai6 mai6 m4 syl fuk6 aa3?
Why 2.SG CL hand cold-ice-ice PART be not-be NEG comfortable PART
“Why are your hands so cold? Are you not feeling feel?”

63. fei4 tan4 tan4 (肥 搽 搽), (very) fat / fattish

個 人 肥 搽 搽 都 仲 食 咁 多 ？
go2 go3 jan2 fei4 tan4 tan4 dou1 zung6 sik6 gam3 do1 je5 ge2
that CL person fat-tan4-tan4 dou1 still eat that many thing PART
“That person is already so fat. How come s/he still eats so much?”

64. fei4 dyut1 dyut1 (肥 腿), somewhat fat / fattish

個 小 朋 友 肥，好 得 意 呀
go3 siu2 pang4 jau4 fei4 dyut1 dyut1 hou2 dak1 ji3 aa3
CL little friend fat-dyut1-dyut1, INTENS cute PART
“The little kid is somewhat fat. S/he looks very cute.”

65. goek3 ngan3 ngan3 (腳 腳 腳), leg/feet moving, shaking

啲 麵 包 幹 幹 爭 争 爭 争，好 難 食 呀
di1 min6-baau1 goek3 ngan3 ngan3 laa1. mow4 lat5-maan6 gaa3
NEG good leg-shake-shake PART, without courtesy PART
“The bread is so dry. It doesn’t taste good.”

66. gon1 zang1 zang1 (乾 乾 乾), dry

啲 麵 包 乾 乾 乾 好 難 食 呀
di1 min6-baau1 gon1 zang1 zang1 hou2 naan4 sik6 aa3
CL bread dry-zang1-zang1. INTENS hard eat PART
“The bread is so dry. It doesn’t taste good.”

67. gu1 ling1 ling1 (孤 零 零), lonely

個 女 子 孤 零 零 唉，無 人 照 顧，好 可 憐 呀
go3 neoi5 zai2 gu1 ling1 ling1 gam3 mou5 jan4 ziu3-ga3 hou2 hou2-lin4 aa3
CL girl little lonely-ling1-ling1 gam3, not-have person care INTENS pitiful PART
“The girl is orphaned and nobody takes care of her. What a pity!”

68. gui6 laai4 laai4 (癱 瘓), getting tired

打 完 籃 球，成 個 人 都 癱 瘓 ngaam1-ngaam1 dau2 jyun4 laam4-kau4 seng4 go3 jan4 dou1 gui6 laai4 laai4
sometimes-ago hit finish basketball, whole CL person dou1 tired-laai4-laai4
“I just finished playing basketball and I’m feeling very tired.”
69. gwong1 caang4 caang4 (光撐撐), (very) bright
間 房 咱 光 撐 撐 睹 該 燈 盞 燈 拉
gaan1 fong4 gam3 gwong1 caang4 caang4. m4-go1 sk1 zo2 zaan2 dang1 laa1
CL room so bright-caang4-caang4. please switch-off PERF CL light PART
“The room is too bright. Please switch off the light.”

70. gwong1 tyut1 tyut1 (光脫脫), bald
佢 咱 後 生 就 甩 晒 頭 髮，搞 到 個 頭 依 家 光 脫 脫
keoi5 gam3 hau6-sang1 zau6 lat1 saai3 di1 tau4 faat3, gaau2 dou3 go3 tau4 ji1-gaa1 gwong1 tyut1 tyut1
3.SG so young zau6 lose all CL head hair, make dou3 CL head now bright/empty-tyut1-tyut1 gam2
“He has lost his hair and become bald at this young age.”

71. haai4 saap6 saap6 (諧霎霎), rough
佢 啥 頭 腦 該 謝 謝 謝 謝 謝 謝 謝 謝 謝 謝 謝 謝 謝
Keoi5 di1 pei4 fu1 haai4 saap6 saap6 gang2 hai6 ping4 si4 hou2 siu2 wu6 fu1 gaa3 laak3
3.SG POSS skin rough-saap6-saap6, definite be flat time INTENS little protect skin PART PART
“His/her skin is so rough. I bet s/he seldom takes care of it.”

72. hak1 maa1 maa1 (黑媽媽)/hak1 mang1 mang1 (黑盟盟)/hak1 mi1 maa1 (黑咪媽) (very) dark
間 房 咱 黑 媽 媽，唔 該 開 晒 所 有 燈 拉
gaan1 fong4 gam3 hak1 maa1 maa1. m4-go1 ho1 saai3 so2-jau5 dang1 laa1
CL room gam3 black-maa1-maa1. please switch-on saai3 all light PART
“The room is so dark. Please switch on all the lights.

73. hau2 maak3 maak3 (口擘擘), mouth opening (when one being surprised/shocked)
佢 咱 幾 狗 嚇 到 口 擘 擘 出 唸 到 聲
keoi5 bei2 zek3 gau2 hak3 dou3 hau2 maak3 maak3 ceot1 m4 dou2 seng1
3.SG be2 CL dog scare dou3 mouth-open-open out NEG dou2 sound
“She is scared off by the dog and can’t say anything.”

74. hau2 zat6 zat6 (口窒窒), halting, being hesitant and uncertain
佢 語 口 窒 窒 咱，一 定 度 講 大 話
keoi5 gong2 je5 hau2 zat6 zat6 gau2, jat1-deng6 hai6 dou3 gong2 gam2 daai6-waa6
3.SG talk thing mouth obstrue obstrue gam2 must be dou6 talk PROG lie
“She is speaking hesitantly. I think h/she must be telling lies.”

75. hei3 cyun2 cyun2 (氣喘喘), breathless
Rosemary 每 次 出 場 都 氣 喘 喘
Rosemary mui5-ci3 ceot1 coeng4 dou1 hei3 cyun2 cyun2
Rosemary every time appear show dou1 air-cyun2-cyun2
“Every time when Rosemary appears, she is breathless.”

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92 from Apple Daily (18/10/2004)
76. **hei3 gu2 gu2 (氣鼓鼓)**, to be angry

連他門氣鼓鼓的神情都一模一樣
lin4 taa1-mun4 hei3 gu2 gu2 dik1 san4-cing4 dou1 jat1-mou4-jat1-joeng6
still 3.PL gas-gu2-gu dik1 expression dou1 same
“They looked so much alike even when they got angry.”

77. **heng1 piu1 piu1 (輕飄飄)**, light

張紙輕飄飄的神情都一樣
zoeng1 zi2 heng1-piu1-piu1 jan1 zyu6 keoi5 be1 fung1 ceoi1 zau2 aa3
CL paper light-flow-flow be-careful 3.SG be1 want exit street PART
“This piece of paper is so light. Make sure that it won’t be blowed away by the breeze.”

78. **hing4 hap6 hap6 (熾熱)**, hot

出面熱到啲面熱到啲
ceot1 min6-jit6 dou1 hing3 hap6 hap6, ngo5 dou1 m4 soeng2 ceot1 gaai1 aa3
outside hot dou1 hot-hap6-hap6, 1.SG dou1 NEG want exit street PART
“It’s so hot out there. I don’t want to go out.”

79. **hoeng1 pan3 pan3 (香噴噴)**, fragrant, good smell of food

啲麵包香香噴噴噴噴
di1 min6-baau1 hoeng1 pan3 pan3 jat1-ding6 hou2 hou2 sik6
CL bread fragrant-spray-spray must good good eat
“The bread smells so good. It must be very delicious.”

80. **hong4 dong1 dong3 (紅紅) **, red

件外套紅紅，好好眼呀
gin6 ngo1 tou3 hong4 dong1 dong3 hou2 coeng2 ngaan5 aa3
CL outer cover red-dong1-dong3, INTENS rob eye PART
“The jacket is red, which is very eye-catching.”

81. **hung1 lel1 lel1 (空寥寥)** / **hung1 kwaang1 kwaang1 (空框框)**, spacious / empty

而家間屋空寥寥好耐冇人住喇
ji1-gaa1 gaan1 uk1 hung1-lel1-lel1 hou2 loi6 mou5 jan4 zyu6 gaa3 laa3
now CL house empty-lel1-lel1 INTENS long-time not-have person live PART PART
“The house is empty and nobody lives there now.”

82. **hung4 tung4 tung4 (紅彤彤)**, red

其餘都露出紅彤彤的座室墊
kei4-jyu4 cyun4 dou1 lou6 coet1 hung4 tung4 tung4 dik1 zo6 sat1 zin3
other all same expose out red-red-red dik1 seat room pat
“Other (rooms) had red sitting mats.”

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93 from Apple Daily (10/10/2004)
94 from Ming Pao (28/9/2004)
hyut3 lam4 lam4 (血淋淋), bloody

The war between America and Vietnam is one of the vivid and bloody examples.

jat1 geoi3 geoi3 (一句句), repeatedly (weeping)

Even if Hung-zi were reborn, he would still have no solution (to the problem).

jit6 laat6/1 laat6/1 (熱辣辣), state of very hot

The soup is still hot. Take it as soon as possible.

jyun5 laai4 laai4 (軟癩癩), To describe one’s body getting “soft” (i.e. tired, not feeling well)

S/he is feeling very sick and tired/weak.

jyun5 lam4 lam4 (軟軟), soft-ish

This toy is as soft as marshmallow.

laan6 jung4 jung4 (爛熔熔), Worn out, rotten

Oh! The house is so old and worn-out. How can one live there?

lap6 ci1 ci1 (韌韌), sticky

Why is the cup still a bit sticky? I’m sure you didn’t wash it well.

95 from Ming Pao (28/9/2004)
96 from Ming Pao (5/10/2004)
90. **lou5 nget4 nget4 (老, old)**

“S/he is already very old. But s/he still dresses like a young man/woman.”

91. **lyun6 zou1 zou1 (亂糟糟, messy)**

“His/her room is messy and untidy. Ask her to tidy things up.”

92. **mat6 zat1 zat1 (密質質, dense)**

“There are already too many things in this place and there is no room for this table.”

93. **maan6 tan1 tan1 (慢吞吞, slow)**

“S/he does things slowly; s/he is completely inefficient.”

94. **min6 ceng1 ceng1 (面青青, pale)**

“S/he looks so pale. S/he must be sick.”

95. **mou4 dyun1 dyun1 (無端端, without any reason)**

“I went out with a male friend with no reason.”

96. **mou4 sang4 sang4 (毛狌狌, hairy, furry)**

“Oh! I don’t like seeing hairy things.”

97. **mung2 bai3 bai3 (懞閉閉, being silly / absent-minded)**

“The boy is absent-minded and gullible.”

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97 from Apple Daily (27/9/2004:C12)
98. **mung4 caa4 caa4 (蒙查查), blurred**

The window is not clear. Wipe it.

99. **nau1 baau3 baau3 (騷爆爆), angry**

S/he has been upset for the whole day. Who provoked him/her again?

100. **nauu6 hung6 hung6 (鬧哄哄), crowded**

There were many people in the Arrivals Hall.

101. **ngaan5 daai6 daai6 (眼大大), with big eyes**

The boy has a pair of big eyes. He is so cute.

102. **ngaan5 gwat6 gwat6 (眼掘掘) / ngaan5 ciu1 ciu1 (眼超超), the act of staring**

Why are you staring at me? (being provocative)

103. **ngaan5 sap1 sap1 (眼濕濕), starting to cry**

Ting-fung was almost weeping when he apologized (to Mr. Wong) face-to-face.

104. **ngaan5 zaam2 zaam2 (眼斬斬), blinking eyes**

Look. The baby is blinking its eyes. See, how cute.

105. **ngaang6 baang1 baang1 (硬繃繃), being stubborn**

S/he is very stubborn and never listens to people.
106. **ngai2 dat1 dat1 (矮英), very short**

```
haa1?go1 go3 ngai2 dat1 dat1 ge3 naam4 jan2 za6 hai6 ceo1 san1 hei3 ge3 zyu2 gok3 laa4?
```

“What? That short guy is the leading actor of that new movie?”

107. **ngong6 goei1 goei1 (憨居). Being at a loss to know what to do, dumb**

```
個 男 仔 個 憨 居 居 啦， 所以 無 女 仔 鐘 意 啦
goi3 naam3 za1i2 go3 joeng2 ngong6-goei1-goei1 gam2 so2-ji5 mou5 neoi5 zu1i2 zung1-ji3 lo1
```

“The boy looks dull and stupid, so no girls like him.”

108. **saan2 sau1 sau1 (散修修), loose**

```
啲 紙 散散 散修修 修修 修修 修修 修修 咁， 快 啲 返 好 佢 喔
di1 zi2 saan2 sau1 sau1 gam2 faai3 di1 zap1 faan1 hou2 keoi5 laa1
```

“The papers are all over the place. Tidy them up.”

109. **saang1 ngau1 ngau1 (生勾勾), alive**

```
生生 生生 勾勾 勾勾 仲 有 幾 分 樂 趣 的人,
saang1 ngau1 ngau1, gok3-dak1 sang1-wut6 zung6 jau5 gei2-fan6 lok6 ceo1 dik1 jan4,
```

People who are alive and still think that life is interesting will not choose to go camping alone.”

110. **sam1 juk1 juk1 (心郁郁), eager to do something**

```
我 成 日 都 心心 郁郁 郁郁 想 去 買 手 機
ngo5 seng4 jat6 dou1 sam1 juk1 juk1 soeng2 heoi3 maa5 go2 bou6 sau2 gei1
```

“I have also been wanting to buy that mobile phone.”

111. **sam1 si1 si1 (心思思), eager to do something, being disturbed**

```
我 成 日 都 心思 思 思 想 去 手 機 鋒 打 機
ngo5 seng4 jat6 dou1 sam1-si1-si1 soeng2 heoi3 gei-pon2 dou2 gei1
```

“I always want to go to the video game center to play video games.”

112. **sap1 det6 det6 (濕), wet**

```
個 地 下 潮□□□□， 小 心 霧 親 咯
go3 det6-haa2 sap1 det6 det6 gaa3, siu2 sam1 sin3 can1 aa3
```

“The floor is very slippery. Be careful!”

113. **sap1 lap6 lap6 (濕), wet**

```
哩 排 晴 氣 湿， 搞 到 個 人 都 有 晦 心 機 咯！
L11 paa4 di1 tin1 hei3 sap1 lap6 lap6 gaa2 dou3 go3 jan4 mou5 saai3 sam1-gei1 zou6 je5 aa3
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“The weather is so humid these days. I don’t have any mood to work.”

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100 from Metro News (6/10/2004)
114. **sau3 maang2 maang2 (瘦蜢蜢), skinny**

個 小 朋 友 瘦 螟 螟 吩, 械 係 平 時 食 好 少
g3 sui2 pang4 jau5 sau3 maang2 maang2 gam2, gang2 hai6 ping4 si4 sik6 hou2 sui2 je5 gaa3 laak3

CL little friend thin-maang2 maang2 gam3, definitely be flat time eat INTENS little thing PART PART “The little kid is skinny. I bet s/he doesn’t eat much.”

115. **sei2 gu4 gu4 (死咕咕), dull, inflexible**

佢 做 事 死 咕 咕 吩. 完 全 唔 識 變 通
keoi5 zou6 si6 sei2 gu4 gu4 gu4 gam3, jyun4-cyun4 m4 sik1 bin3 tung1 gaa3
3.SG do job die-gu-gu gam3, completely NEG know change pass PART “S/he does things rigidly. There is no flexibility in him/her.”

116. **sui3 ke4 ke4 (笑騎騎), laughing**

葉 璇 夜 攜 男 伴 看 戲 笑 騎 騎
jip6-syun4 je6 kwai4 naam3 bun6 tai2 hei3 sui3-ke4-ke4
Yip-syun night carry male partner watch movie laugh-mount-mount “Yip-syun was very happy when she went to see a movie with a male friend.”

117. **sui3 mil mil (笑咪咪), to smile slightly**

陳 秀 珠 帶 太 子 騎 騎 笑 咪 咪
can4-sau3-yu1 daai3 tai2 sui3 mil mil
Can-sau-zyu bring Prince watch show laugh-mi1-mi1 “Chan Sau Chi brought the “Prince” with her and watched the show happily.”

118. **sung1 pel4 pel4 (鬆鬆), loose**

你 條 牛 仔 褲 鬆 鬆 □ □ ... 好 心 你 唔 好 著 啦!
nei5 tiu4 ngau6-zai2- fu3 sung1-pel4-pel4 ...good heart 2.SG  NEG  good wear  P ART “Your jeans are so loose. Please don’t wear them!”

119. **sun1 mei1 mei1 (酸瞇瞇), a bit sour**

啲 芒 果 酸 瞇 瞇 瞇 瞇 瞇 瞇, 唔 好 食 呀
di1 mong1 gu4-sun1 mei1 mei1 ge2 m4 hou2 sik6 aa3
2.SG CL mangoes sour-mei1-mei1 PART, NEG good eat PART “The mangoes are a bit sour. Don’t try them.”

120. **taam5 mau6 mau6 (淡茂茂), almost tasteless**

碗 粥 淡 茂 茂 茂 茂 , 一 啲 都 唔 好 食
wun2 zuk1 taam5 mau6 mau6 jat1 di1 dou1 m4 hou2 sik6
CL congee light-in-taste mau6 mau6, one di1 dou1 NEG good eat “The congee is tasteless. I doesn’t taste good at all.”

121. **tau4 cek3 cek3 (頭赤赤), feeling a bit dizzy**

做 成 日 野, 依 家 頭 赤 赤 吩, 好 唔 舒 服
zou6 zo2 sung4 jat6 je5 jil-gaa1 tau4 cek3 cek3 gam2 hou2 m4 syu1-fuk6
do PERF whole day things, now head-cek3-cek3 gam2 INTENS NEG comfortable “Having worked for the whole day, I’ve got a headache now. I am feeling very uncomfortable.”

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101 from Apple Daily (2/10/2004:C6)
102 from Apple Daily (11/10/2004:C12)
122. 

tau4 dap1 dap1 (頭耷耷), head down (in low spirit, not in mood)

“当您在单腿站立时，应尽量抬头向前看，不要低着头。”

123. 

tau4 ngok6 ngok6 (頭頭), head up

“当他单脚站立时，要尽量抬著头。”

124. 

tim4 je4 je4 (甜椰椰), a bit sweet

“这糖果太甜了。不要吃太多，否则会蛀牙的。”

125. 

tim4 si1 si1 (甜絲絲), sweet

“他爸爸知道女儿想念著他，心里是甜甜的。”

126. 

waat6 lyut1 lyut1 (滑膚膚), state of very smooth

“她的皮肤是如此柔软和幼嫩。它是非常吸引人的。”

127. 

waat6 saan4 saan4 (滑潺潺), unpleasantly slippery

“这鱼滑溜溜的。我非常害怕它。”

128. 

wan4 to4 to4 (暈陀陀), swaying and feeling dizzy

“Jyun-git-ji使男观众非常兴奋时，他拥抱了他。”

103 from Apple Daily (18/10/2004:E4)
104 from Ming Pao (27/9/2004)
105 from Apple Daily (30/9/2004)
106 from Apple Daily (2/10/2004:C10)
130. **wong4 gam4 gam4 (黃淦淦), yellow**

“This piece of paper has turned yellowish. It must be very old/ It must have been here for a long time.”

131. **wul zeot1 zeot1 (烏卒卒), dark**

“Her soles became dark because she stood with bare feet on the stone when the photos were taken.”

132. **zeoi2 miu5 miu5 (嘴藐藐), moving the lips to show hatred, indifference/ look down upon somebody**

“Siu-ci-wing-zi had lots of facial expressions. She even raised her lips and looked indifferent when she took a picture with her boss”

133. **zing6 gai1 gai1 (靜雞雞), quietly**

“His/her son stole his/her money when s/he is not at home.”

134. **zing6 jing1 jing1 (靜英英), quiet**

“The street is so quiet. Please be careful when you go home by yourself.”

135. **zeoi2 zel1 zel1 (嘔, Talkative (neg.))**

“Don’t talk too much. Pay more attention to doing your homework.”

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107 from Apple Daily (30/9/2004)
108 from Apple Daily (30/9/2004:C33)
136. **zoeng4 buk1 buk1 (脹卜卜)**, bulky, puffy

“Wow! I ate a big meal just now and my tummy is still very full.”

6. **ABCD**

137. **bing4 ling1 baang3 laang4 (砰擰砰擰砰擰砰擰繃繃繃繃繃繃), noise made by falling things**

“How come the room is so noisy?”

138. **cit1 coet1 gam3 zyun3 (□□□□), going around**

“I”ve been extremely busy and turning round and round the office for the whole day.”

139. **cou4 hyun1 baa1 bai3 (嘈喧巴閉嘈喧巴閉嘈喧巴閉嘈喧巴閉), making noise**

“S/he is so noisy.”

140. **daai6 tou5 lam4 dam1 (大肚大肚大肚大肚), being pregnant (esp. at a late stage of the pregnancy)**

“The woman is at her late pregnancy, and yet she is still going around. This is very dangerous.”

141. **fi4 li1 fe4 le4 (唎啡哩唎啡哩唎啡哩唎啡哩), reflecting the sound of something watery coming out in a vigorous manner**

“His saliva spat out as he talked. That”s so unhygienic.”

142. **gei1 li1 gu1 lou1 (嘰哩咕嚕嘰哩咕嚕嘰哩咕嚕嘰哩咕嚕), sound of a foreign language**

“Si-naam-sang suddenly spoke to her friend in French, something like “avez-vous dine?”.”

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109 from Apple Daily (18/10/2004)
110 from Ming Pao (4/10/2004)
143. **hak1 gu2 lak6 dat6 (黑古勒突), with somewhat dark complexion**

His/her complexion is so dark. I bet s/he always goes swimming.

144. **ji1 waa1 gwai2 giu3 (依嘩鬼叫)**, shouting wildly

The female viewers in Shun De shouted wildly because Tou-tai-yu’s presence.

145. **ngok3 sei2 nang4 dang1 (惡死能登), being fierce**

The guy looks fierce and offensive, so no girl likes him.

146. **si4 li1 saa4 laa4 (嘶哩嘩), Sounds of rain drops**

It is raining in torrents out there. I can hear it.

147. **wil waa1 gwai2 giu3 (嘩鬼叫), Noisy / talking very loudly**

Those kids are making so much noise. I can’t sleep at all.

148. **wu1 lei1/li1 daan1 dou1 (污呃單叨), messy, dirty**

His/her room is very messy and dirty.

149. **wu1 lei1/li1 maa5 caa5 (污呃馬喳), messy, dirty**

His/her son is very naughty. S/he always draws on the table and makes it dirty.

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111 from Apple Daily (2/10/2004:C10)
7. ABAC

150. faa1 li1 (faa1) luk1 (花呢花碌), colorful

“The clothes are too colorful. They don’t suit your style.”

8. ABAB

151. saap6 haa5 saap6 haa5 (霎下霎下), silly / absent-minded

“S/he is very absent-minded. S/he is not trustworthy.”

9. AABB

152. aai1 aai1 bang6 bang1 (挨挨崩崩), the act of leaning on something/somebody

“Stop leaning here and there. Stand upright.”

153. aam4 aam4 caam4 caam4 (岩岩慚慚), irregular, asymmetric

“The rock is so irregular. Make sure that you don’t get hurt (when holding it).”

154. am4 am4 cam4 cam4 (唵唵唵唵唵唵唵唵), murmuring

“He/she is always murmuring, which is really annoying.”

155. ding4 ding1 dam4 dam3 (叮叮聳聳)/ king1 ling1 kwaang1 laang1 (傾拎揹揹冷),

to describe somebody wearing lots of jewels

“She likes dressing up herself and she always wears lots of accessories on her.”

156. faai3 faai3 ceoi3 ceoi3 (快快脆脆), fast

“That assignment is very urgent. You get it done fast.”
157. *fu2 fu2 gip3 gip3* (苦苦澀澀), a bit / too bitter

The syrup (medicine) was bitter and the kid refused to take it.

158. *gei1 gei1 zaa1 zaa1* (嘰嘰喳喳), talking quickly

It talked quickly.

159. *gwai2 gwai2 syu2 syu2* (鬼鬼鼠鼠), behaving with hidden motives

He/she looks furtive. Could s/he be a thief?

160. *hi1 hi1 haa1 haa1* (嘻嘻哈哈), playing all the time, not being serious

Teenages do not earn much money. They spend most of their time playing.

161. *ji4 ji1 ngo4 ngo4* (依依啼啼), sound produced by a violin

(Somebody) saw the old man put the violin on his shoulder and held it under his chin. He then played “The Swan Lake.”

162. *ji4 ji1 ngo4 ngo4* (依依啼啼), murmuring into somebody’s ears

Hok-jaau told others that his wife, Lo-mei-mei, had phobia on dirt. At the same time, she liked to murmur into his ears and be angry with him.

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112 from Apple Daily (11/10/2004)
113 from Apple Daily (12/10/2004)
114 from Apple Daily (11/10/2004)
115 from Apple Daily (3/10/2004)
163. **jung4 jung4 laan6 laan6 (熔熔爛爛), worn out, rotten**

The trousers are already worn-out. I have to buy a new pair.

164. **kau4 kau4 kei4 kei4 (求求其其), being sketchy, careless**

S/he has finished all the homework carelessly.

165. **lap6 lap6 lo6 lo6 (邏邏), doing things slowly / being inefficient**

S/he does things slowly and absolutely inefficient.

166. **le5 le5 fe5 fe5 (哩哩啡啡), messy, untidy**

He/she is so messy and untidy. No wonder nobody wants to employ him.

167. **leon6 leon6 zeon6 zeon6 (論論盡盡), clumsy**

S/he is a clumsy person. Nobody trusts him/her.

168. **lou4 lou4 dou1 dou1 (嘮嘮叨叨), murmuring all the time**

Remember not to murmur and talk vaguely all the time.

169. **mang2 mang2 zang2 zang2 (忟忟盡盡), losing temper, getting angry, agitated**

He/she always loses temper, no one dare talk to him/her.

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**Note:**

116 from Apple Daily (1/10/2004)
171. **mou4 mou4 liu4 liu4 (無無聊聊), being idle**

But 成 日 都 無 無 聊 聊 啦, 浪 費 我 地 嘛 時 間

keoi5 seng4 jat6 dou1 mou4 mou4 liu4 liu4 gam3, long4-fai3 ngo5-dei6 gei3 si4-gaan3

3.SG all day dou1 no-no-liu4 liu4 gam3, waste 1.PL POSS time

“S/he has always been idle and wasted our time.”

172. **muk6 muk6 duk6 duk6 (木木獨獨), to describe sb by being dull/boring**

佢 個 男 仔 木 木 獨 獨 啦, 難 怪 有 人 鍾 意 佢 啦

go2 go3 naan4 jat6 muk6 muk6 duk6 duk6 gam3, naan4 gwaai3 mou5 jat6 zung1-jii3 keoi5 laa1

that CL male little wood-wood-duk6-duk6 gam3, difficult blame no person like 3.SG PART

“That guy is a boring person. No wonder nobody is interested in him.”

173. **nau2 nau2 ling6 ling6 (扭扭擰擰), twisting / being indecisive**

據 知 佘 詩 曼 早 前 為 纖 體 公 司 拍 廣 告 又 扭 扭 擰 擰

goi3-zii se4-sii-maan6 zou2-cin4 wai6 cim1-tai2 gung1-sil paak3 gwong2-gou3 yau3 nau2 nau2 ling6 ling6

rumour Se-si-maan early for slimming corporation videotape advertisement also nau2-nau2-ling6-ling6

“There was a rumour saying that Se-si-maan was not very cooperative when she videotaped an advertisement for a slimming company.”

174. **tiu3 tiu3 zaat3 zaat3 (跳跳紮紮), the act of jumping around**

嗰 個 小 朋 友 成 日 都 跳 跳 紮 紮, 好 活 聲 呀

go2 go3 siu2 pang4-jau5 seng4 jat6 dou1 tiu3 tiu3 zaat3 zaat3, hou2 wut6-put3 aa1

That CL little friend whole day dou1 jump jump zaat3 zaat3, INTENS lively PART

“That little kid is always jumping here and there. He’s very lively.”

175. **zaa3 zaa3 dai3 (dai3), (詐詐諦諦), to pretend / the act of pretending**

唔 好 詐 詐 諦 諦, 快 俾 返 隻 錶 我 呀!

ng4 hou2 zaa3 zaa3 dai3 dai3, faai3 diil bei2 faan1 zek3 biu1 ngo5 aa3

NEG good zaa3 zaa3 dai3 dai3, fast dii give back CL watch 1.SG PART

“Don’t pretend (that you’re not keeping my watch). Give me back my watch immediately!”

176. **zi1 zi1 m4 m4 (支支吾吾), talking unelearly, ambiguously**

他 們 採 取 支 支 吾 吾, 模 模 難 可 的 態 度

taa1-mou4 coi2-ceoi2 zi1 zi1 m4 m4, mou4-ling4-loeng5-hoi2 dik1 taai3-dou6

3. PL use zii-zii-m4-m4, vague dik1 attitude

“They chose to talk in an unclear and vague manner.”

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117 from Sudden Weekly (1/10/2004)
118 from Apple Daily (15/10/2004)