

WEB EDITION

Cantonese to Save the Planet

用廣東話救地球

jung6 gwong2 dung1 waa2 gau3 dei6 kau4

By

Jo Wilson

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Foreword

This little book has been written to help non-native speakers of Cantonese find the words they need to use everyday in Hong Kong to avoid contributing to the global calamity caused by our consumption habits.

If you come across anyone who either doesn't know these phrases, or is reluctant or forgetful in using them, please feel free to prompt them!

To follow Living Lamma's efforts to rid our beautiful island of the plastic and polystyrene waste that washes up on our shores, please visit www.livinglamma.org. Thank you for your support!

唔要飲管

m4 jiu3 jam2 gun2

I don't want a straw.

我有袋，唔使膠袋

ngo5 jau5 doi1, m4 sai2 gaau1 doi1

I have a bag. No need for a plastic bag.

我有杯，唔使杯

ngo5 jau5 bui1, m4 sai2 bui1

I have a cup. I don't need a cup.

我有飯盒

ngo5 jau5 faan6 hap6

I have (my own) lunch box.

我自己有刀叉

ngo5 zi6 gei2 jau5 dou1 caa4

I have my own cutlery.

我好環保

ngo5 hou2 waan4 bou2

I'm very environmentally conscious.

我唔用即棄膠樽

ngo5 m4 jung6 zik1 hei3 gaau1 zeon1

I don't use single-use plastic bottles.

邊度有回收箱？

bin1 dou6 jau5 wui4 sau1 soeng1

Where is there a recycling bin?

唔該，請用垃圾桶掉垃圾！

m4 goi1, ceng2 jung6 laap6 saap3 tung2 diu1 laap6 saap3

Please put your rubbish in a bin!

自己垃圾自己帶走

zi6 gei2 laap6 saap3 zi6 gei2 daai2 zau2

Take your rubbish home with you.

唔好意思，我唔係你嘅媽咪。

m4 hou2 ji3 si3 ngo5 m4 hai6 nei5 ge3 maa1 mi4.

快啲執你嘅垃圾，唔該。

faai3 di1 zap1 nei5 ge3 laap6 saap3 m4 goi1

I'm sorry, I am not your mother.

Pick up your rubbish quick-smart, please.

煙頭對環境好危險。

jin1 tau2 deoi3 waan4 ging2 hou2 ngai4 him2.

唔該用煙灰缸掉好佢

m4 goi1 jung6 jin1 fui1 gong1 diu6 hou2 keoi5

Cigarette butts are very dangerous.

Please dispose of them properly in an ashtray.

唔好意思，我唔想買。

m4 hou2 ji3 si3, ngo5 m4 soeng2 maai5.

有太多包裝。

jau5 tai3 do1 baau1 zong1

So sorry, I don't want to buy this.

It has too much plastic packaging.

我 喺 香 港 週 時 去 沙 灘 執 垃 圾 ，

ngo5 hai2 hoeng1 gong2 zau1 si4 heoi3 saa1 taan1 zap1 laap6

所 以 我 唔 鍾 意 用 膠 嘅 嘢 。

saap3, so5 ji2 ngo5 m4 zung1 ji3 jung6 gaau1 je5

*In Hong Kong, I often go to clean the beach,
so I don't like to use plastic stuff.*

發泡應該膠全面禁止嘞！

faat3 pou5 gaau1 jing1 goi1 cyun4 min6 gam3 zi2 laak3

Polystyrene should be banned.

你想唔想同我

nei5 soeng2 m4 soeng2 tung4 ngo5

去沙灘執垃圾呀？

heoi3 saa1 taan1 zap1 laap6 saap3 aa3?

*Would you like to go to the beach
to pick up rubbish with me?*

如果你好環保

jyu4 gwo2 nei5 hou2 waan4 bou2

我會同你拍拖

ngo5 wui5 tung4 nei5 paak3 to1

*If you are environmentally friendly,
I will date you.*

如果你買嗰膠樽水

jyu4 gwo2 nei5 maai5 go3 gaau1 zeon1 sei2

我會同你分手

ngo5 wui5 tung4 nei5 fan1 sau2

*If you buy that bottle of water,
I will dump you.*

我 唔 食 肉 嘅

ngo5 m4 sik6 yuk6 ge3

I don't eat meat.

我食素嘅

ngo5 sik6 sou3 ge3

I eat vegetables.

垃圾太多啦！

laap6 saap3 taai3 do1 laa1

係時候改壞習慣

hai6 si4 hau6 goi2 wai6 zaap6 gwaan3

There's too much rubbish!

It's time to change our habits!

即棄唔好呀！

zik1 hei3 m4 hou2 aa3

Single-use is no good.

唔便，唔該！

m4 sai2, m4 goi1

No need, thank you!

(Used to refuse anything)

Acknowledgements

Many thanks to all the wonderful people in Hong Kong who refuse to use single use plastic; to those who spend their free time to go clean a beach; and to those who tirelessly and patiently spend time to educate those who may still be less aware of the destruction caused by plastics.

Thanks to all of you who buy this book and use the words - together we will change the world.

And special thanks to those who helped in the making of this book, particularly Ginger Lin, Fong Fong, Stanley Chan and all the friends and supporters of Living Lamma.

About the Author

Jo Wilson has lived in Hong Kong for 25 years. For the first decade, she spent most of her waking hours chained to the corporate desk, with little time to venture forth to discover the beauty (and the horrors) of Hong Kong's magnificent coastline.

After having children in 2006, Jo became increasingly aware of the disaster on our beaches and how terribly tragic a trip to the seaside could be for the kids. She founded an environmental charity, Living Lamma, in 2009, campaigning tirelessly for better waste management and heading countless clean ups around her home on Lamma Island.