

# A STUDY ON THE MODIFIED TONES IN SPOKEN CANTONESE

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## I

### LISTS OF WORDS PRONOUNCED IN THE MODIFIED TONES

Apart from the ten basic tones,<sup>1</sup> we witness, in many Cantonese words, the phenomenon of the so-called modified tones. Many words, when used in actual speech, are pronounced in tones other than those recorded in current Cantonese dictionaries. In this article I wish to present, topically arranged, lists of words which, in actual speech, are pronounced in a modified tone. I shall leave to a second article the discussion of the origin of this modification, its semantic implications and its "compensatory" function.<sup>2</sup>

The modified tones as recorded in the following lists represent usage in standard spoken Cantonese. Some Cantonese speakers, however, tend to modify tones of words more frequently than others. This is particularly true of women speakers, as they are less influenced by the pronunciation used in the recitation of Classical texts, where modification of tones does not occur.

The system of transcription used in this article is the Barnett system, adopted, with a few modifications, by the School of Oriental and African Studies in its Cantonese courses. It has been described in detail by its originator in B.S.O.A.S., Vol. XIII, Pt. 3, 1950, pp. 735-42, and furthermore by W. Simon in the Introduction to the *1200 Chinese Basic Characters for Students of Cantonese*,<sup>3</sup> and reprinted in the present writer's *Structure*

<sup>1</sup> See the description of these in the Introduction, by W. Simon, to the writer's *1200 Chinese Basic Characters for Students of Cantonese*, London 1953, pp. xviii-xx.

<sup>2</sup> Writers who touched on this subject are:

(a) K. H. Ch'an Chan-Seng (with an introduction by J. Dyer Ball), *China Review*, Vol. XXIV, pp. 209-26.

(b) Y. R. Chao in his *Cantonese Primer*, Harvard University Press, 1947, Introduction, pp. 34-5.

(c) S. L. Wong in his *A Chinese Syllabary pronounced according to the Dialect of Canton*, Shanghai, 1941, pp. 34-52.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. ix-xxiii.



- (m) *Games and things used at games* (p. 28).  
 (n) *Professions, jobs, crafts, positions or ranks, tools, implements, etc., and familiar terms in craft, business or professions*  
 (i) Professions, jobs, crafts, positions or ranks (p. 28).  
 (ii) Tools, implements, etc. (p. 29).  
 (iii) Familiar terms in business, craft, or profession (p. 29).

## II. CLASSIFIERS AND ADJECTIVES

- (a) *Classifiers* (p. 30).  
 (b) *Adjectives*  
 (i) Descriptive adjectives (p. 30).  
 (ii) Adjectives connected with size, distance, etc. (p. 31).  
 (iii) Repetitive adjectives (p. 31).

## III. VERBS (p. 32).

## IV. ADVERBS AND ADVERBIAL PHRASES

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## VII. FAMILIAR PHRASES (p. 35).

### I. NOUNS

#### (a) *Names of Family Relations*

#### (i) Names of address among members of the family and among relatives

A Dheahx: Daddy	Jreahjreahv: Grandfather (rare)
A Gwhuuhx: Mother	Jri-gwhuuhx, Jri-gwhuuhneonqv: Miss No. 2
A Jrihx: Auntie (mother's younger sister)	Jri-nraax: Concubine (2nd wife)
A Mhaahx: Mamma	Jrihraax: sister-in-law (wife's elder sister)
A Nraax: Mother	Krao-fruuv: Uncle (mother's brother)
A Taaiv: Great-grandmother	Lreng Chinngammx, Lreng Qoiv: Your (honourable) daughter
Braahbhaahx: Papa	Lreng Lronqv: Your (honourable) son
Draai-gwhuuhx, Draai-gwhuuhneonqv: Miss No. 1	Lreng T'ronqv(v): Your (honourable) mother
Gwhuuhmhaahx: Auntie (father's elder sister)	Lreng Zhynnjhunqx: Your (honourable) father
Gwhuuhnraax: Sister-in-law (husband's elder sister)	Mraahmhaahx: Mumny
Gwhuuhzeax: Auntie (father's younger sister)	

Nraaynraev <sup>1</sup> : Mother-in-law (address by a daughter-in-law or inferiors in or outside the family)	Shi/nraax: Mrs. (used as address for and among married Christian women)
Nreongneonqv: Grandmother (rare)	Siunraax: Mrs. (a form of address by an inferior person to a married woman)
Prohprohv: Grandmother (mother's mother)	Taaitaiv: Mrs. (a more modern term than Siunraax)

#### (ii) Names signifying relationship but not necessarily names of address.<sup>2</sup>

a ghohx*†: elder brother	jrihmhaahx*†: aunt (mother's elder sister)
a ghunq†: grandfather (mother's father)	Jrihreoe: children (more literary than zaenreoev)
a gwhuuh, a gwhuuh-zae: sister-in-law (husband's younger sister)	jrihshanqx*: nephew (sister's son)
a jrihx*†: Aunt (mother's younger sister)	jrihshanqx-nreoev*: niece (sister's daughter)
a jreah†: grandfather (father's father)	krammroo(v)*†, krammroox*†: aunt (mother's brother's wife)
a jrih, jrihxzae: sister-in-law (wife's younger sister)	lroomroov*: mother
a mraah†: grandmother (father's mother)	mruuiv*: younger sister
a nraev*: concubine	nreoesaiv*: son-in-law
a proh†: grandmother (mother's mother)	nreoev*: daughter
canghaah-lronqv*: servants of relatives by marriage	sailoo: younger brother
draai baakv*: brother-in-law (husband's elder brother)	shynnrx*: grandson
draai gwhuuh: sister-in-law (husband's elder sister)	shynn-nreoev*: granddaughter
draailoo: elder brother	xhengdrai: brothers
draazir: elder sister	zaenreoev*: children
ghaa/ghunqx*: father-in-law (husband's father)	zirnruuiv*: sisters
ghaahprohv*: mother-in-law (husband's mother)	zirshynn: descendants
	zratnreoev*: niece (brother's daughter)
	zratv*: nephew (brother's son)

#### (b) *Personal and other names*

#### (i) Names of well-known persons

Well-known persons in history or in popular fiction, or names of contemporary figures much in the public eye, often have the last syllable of their names modified. The modification is specially prevalent when such names have tones that lend themselves easily to modification, such as the high falling, which then becomes a high level tone (the 1st Modified Tone), or the very low falling and low level, which then become rising tones (2nd Modified Tones).

<sup>1</sup> Note the peculiar change of tone of "nraae" (low rising) to "nraay" (very low falling) which reaches a depth lower in pitch than the low rising, a feature occurring sometimes in compounds with repetitive syllables.

<sup>2</sup> Note that not all names belonging to this category are modified. For the sake of comparison I have included both modified and unmodified names. Attention is drawn to the modification by the addition of \* after the name.

† This is also used as a name of address.

Ceok Mrann-gwhannx 卓文君  
 Crow Chowx 曹操  
 Gaar Boo-jrukv 賈復玉  
 Gheong Taai-ghunqx<sup>1</sup> 姜太公  
 Jreong Gwai-fheyx 楊貴妃  
 Jrynn Mrey-zhihx 元微之  
 Lramun Droi-jrukv 林黛玉  
 Lraw Breiv 劉備  
 Lraw Jhamrx<sup>2</sup> 劉歆  
 Lreong Shaann-baakv<sup>3</sup> 梁山伯  
 Mroo Crunqv 武松  
 Mroo Draai-lronqv<sup>4</sup> 武大郎  
 Mroo Zhak-thinnx 武則天  
 Mrow Zraak-dhunqx 毛澤東  
 Ngraw Lronqv 牛郎  
 Ngh Puui-fhuuhx 吳佩孚  
 Phuunn Ghamn-lrinnv 潘金蓮  
 Qhawjreong Shawx<sup>5</sup> 歐陽修

Shay Shihx 西施  
 Shihmraar Chinnx<sup>6</sup> 司馬遷  
 Shihmraar Shihx<sup>7</sup> 司馬師  
 Show Dhunq-bhoix 蘇東坡  
 Show Sio-mruuiv 蘇小妹  
 Shynn Crynn-fhonqx 孫傳芳  
 Shynn Fhuuhjranv<sup>8</sup> 孫夫人  
 Shynn Zhunq-shaannx 孫中山  
 Sung Ghonqx 宋江  
 Wronq Chiu-Gwhannx<sup>9</sup> 王昭君  
 Wronq Xhey-zhihx 王羲之  
 Wruuh Xon-mrannv 胡漢民  
 Zeong Gaai-sreakv 蔣介石  
 Zhaw Chonqx 周倉  
 Zhek Nreoev 織女  
 Zheong Fheyx<sup>10</sup> 張飛  
 Zriu Wrannv 趙雲

For comparison and contrast a list of unmodified names of well-known persons in history, fiction and among contemporary figures is given below. Reasons for their not being modified will be discussed in my second article.

Bhow Crir 褒姒  
 Braak Gheoy-jri 白居易  
 Braak Srunq-xhey 白崇禧  
 Coi Trenq-ghaay 秦庭樞  
 Dhiw Srimm 貂蟬  
 Drou Fuur (or Poo) 杜甫  
 Durng Ceok 董卓  
 Gwhaann Ghunq 關公  
 Gwhaann Jryr 關羽  
 Jrynn Sai-xoc 袁世凱  
 Jrynn Sreot 袁術  
 Lrao Zhunq-jrynn 柳宗元  
 Lraw Jryr-sek 劉禹錫  
 Lree Braak 李白

Lree Xrunq-zheonq 李鴻章  
 Lree Zhunq-jrann 李崇仁  
 Lreoe Bou 呂布  
 Lreong Kae-chiw 梁啓超  
 Mraang Qhoh 孟軻  
 Mraang Wrok 孟獲  
 Qhoh Dao 阿斗  
 Shaymruunn Xeng 西門慶  
 Shihmraar Ji 司馬懿  
 Shihmraar Sheonq-jryh 司馬相如  
 Show Cit 蘇織  
 Sir Sheonq-wrann 史湘雲  
 Shynn Caak 孫策  
 Shynn Krynn 孫權

<sup>1</sup> Contrast Gwhaann Ghunq 關公 and Zhaw Ghunq 周公, much respected personalities, unmodified; Gheong Taai-Ghunqx and his pitiful search for a suitable lord has become a familiar and favourite figure in the hearts of the people.

<sup>2</sup> Contrast this with his father's name, Lraw Xeong, unmodified. *N.B.* "Xeong" is in the middle level.

<sup>3</sup> Contrast Zhuk Jhenq-troy 祝英臺, his beloved, unmodified, but her abbreviated name Zhuk Jhenqx is modified. *N.B.* Jhenq is a high falling tone.

<sup>4</sup> Contrast Shaymruunn Xeng 西門慶 below, another familiar name in the same story, which is unmodified. *N.B.* Xeng is in middle level.

<sup>5</sup> Contrast this with Zhyh Xhey 朱熹 below, unmodified.

<sup>6</sup> Contrast this with Bhaann Gwuu 婁固 below, unmodified. *N.B.* Gwuu is in middle level.

<sup>7</sup> Contrast this with Shihmraar Ji 司馬懿 below, unmodified. *N.B.* Ji is in middle level.

<sup>8</sup> Contrast this with Shynn Krynn 孫權 below, unmodified, a less popular figure.

<sup>9</sup> Contrast this with her less familiar name, Wronq Creonq below, unmodified.

<sup>10</sup> Contrast Gwhaann Jryr 關羽 (another hero of the same period) below, unmodified. *N.B.* Jryr is in low rising.

Taarn Gee 姬己  
 Whong Zhenq-wrai 汪精衛  
 Wronq Mroing 王莽  
 Wronq Qhonn-sreak 王安石  
 Wronq Wrann 王允  
 Xronn Jry 韓愈  
 Kurng Creonq-xhey 孔祥熙  
 Zhaw Ghunq 周公

Zhaw Jhann-lroy 周恩來  
 Zhaw Jryh 周瑜  
 Zriu Zir-brunq 趙子龍  
 Zhong Zhaw 莊周  
 Zhyhgat Lreong 諸葛亮  
 Zhyh Jrynn-zheonq 朱元璋  
 Zhyh Xhey 朱熹

(ii) Names of persons given according to the order they come in their families.

"A" 亞 is put in front of the numerals to make them personal names. This is a practice found all over China, but the Cantonese modify the tones of some numerals.

A Jriv = No. 2

A Shaammx = No. 3

A Ngriv = No. 5

When the number reaches beyond ten then the prefix "A" is dropped:

Srapseiv = No. 14

Srapirukv = No. 16

Srapnrrv = No. 15

Srapbaatv = No. 18

Unmodified numerals will be dealt with in my second article.

However, the non-modification of *jhat* "one", *sei* "four", *chat* "seven", *baat* "eight", *gao* "nine", etc., shows that a high clipped tone is already high and cannot show, in an additional manner, the effect of the first type of modification and that middle pitch tones do not seem to lend themselves so readily to the rising sweep of the second type of modification.

(iii) Common names for babies

Among names given to new-born babies there are some very common ones, in modified tones of course, given by illiterate, semi-illiterate, conventional or superstitious parents who are afraid of rousing the jealousy of the gods by giving their children high-sounding names with a literary flavour, a practice commonly followed by the literati. If the babies have only common conventional names like "Baby", or names of animals like "dog" or "pig", they are then of the common herd and are things that matter little to gods or men, and so the gods may not feel jealous about them and may leave them alone instead of snatching them away from their proud parents. Illiterate people also find it easier to call their children by ready-made names rather than going through the classics or belle-lettres literature for that purpose, as most of the literati do. The following are a few names equivalent to "Baby", "Babe", "Babs", etc.

A Nghaahx: Probably an imitation of the cries of babies

smell of a new born baby; to give birth to a baby. Therefore the meaning of this name could either be "the milky smell one" or "the new born one"

A Showx: "Show" in Cantonese means a strong smell (of milk, for instance); the



(ii) Names of other tribes or groups of Chinese as well as other nationals

Draan-ghaahx: Boat people	Ngroighonqx-loo: Northern Chinese, or any Chinese not from Goangdong province
Lroo-fhaanrx: foreigners (European)	
Mhoahlohx: Indians	
Mraarthaayx: Malays	Xaakghaahx: The Hakkas

(iii) Titles of reign periods

The more familiar reign periods are modified, except that tones lend themselves to modification are more readily modified whereas tones like the middle rising, the middle level and the low rising do not seem to have taken on modification. If we take the more familiar reign periods, that is, those nearest to us, say of the Ching 清 Dynasty, we can see how the force of familiar usage and certain tonal idiosyncrasies pull against each other. It may be of interest to mention that Xraamsreonn 咸淳 (1265-75) is not modified, but Xraamsreonn nrinnv 咸淳年 is. The year of Xraamsreonn of the Song Dynasty is proverbial, meaning long long ago, ancient; and as history shows the Cantonese had reasons to take notice of the Song who tightened up the administration<sup>1</sup> in Goangdong 廣東, and as the Cantonese came more directly under the central government, their memory of the Song lingered. Another proverbial saying similar to this is perhaps an extension of the idea "ancient". In the early days of the Republic, if someone referred to a lady as being young, disagreement might be expressed by saying: she must be a young lady of the period of Xraammfhunqx 咸豐, the first syllable of which is Xraamm, linking it up with Xraamsreonn nrinnv, very ancient time.

The Ming Dynasty

Xrunqmroo not modified. <i>N.B.</i> mroo is low rising. Occasionally one hears the first emperor of Ming called Zhyh Xrunq-mroov in popular fiction	Gerngtaai, a familiar title, used in name of the colour Gerngtaai lraamm. <i>N.B.</i> Taaai is in the middle level tone and is not modified
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But other familiar titles which also lend themselves more easily to modification are modified:

Mraanlrekx 萬曆	Srunqzhenqx 崇貞
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The Ching Dynasty

Sreonzriv 順治	Drougwhonqx 道光
Xhonqxheyx 康熙	Xraammfhunqx 咸豐
Jhunqzeng 雍正 (last syllable is a middle level tone, and it is unmodified)	Trunqzri(v) 同治
Krinnlrunqv 乾隆	Gwhonqsreoi(v) 光緒
Ghaahxeng 嘉慶 (last syllable is a middle level tone; very infrequently, ghaah-xengv)	Shynnntung 宣統 (last syllable is a middle rising)

<sup>1</sup> See the *Goangdong-tongjyh* 廣東通志, by Heh Yuhlin and Eh Midar, 1731.

(d) Names of famous and popular books, stories and plays(i) Books and stories

Cheonnchawx: Spring and Autumn Annals	this with Lrae gei, Classic of Rites, unmodified; "gei" being a middle level tone)
Draaixrokx: The Great Learning (contrast this with Zhunqjrunq, unmodified, probably because it is less familiar)	Shyhghenqx: Classic of History
Gwhaanazheoyx: Name of an ode in the Odes	Si-shyhx: The Four Books
Gwuurmzannv: An Anthology of Ancient Prose	Sreong Mraangv: Mencius (First part) (contrast this with Mraang zir, The Book of Mencius, unmodified; "zir" is a middle rising tone)
Lreybrauvv: Part of Mencius	Thunqshyhx <sup>1</sup> : Calendar, usually called Thunqxseng; "seng", being a middle level tone, remains unmodified
Lriwzhaayx: A collection of short stories	Tronq-shihx = Targ Poems
Mrukjryh-shyhx: Popular Cantonese stories written in rhymes	Xraa Mraangv = Mencius (Second Part)
Seowuur-zrynv: Name of novel translated by Pearl Buck by the name of "All Men are Brothers"	Xrokjryh = Part of the Analects (contrast this with Shinnzeon(v); "zeon" is a middle level tone; and Lreonjryr, the Analects, unmodified; "jryr" is a low level tone.)
Shaamm-zri ghenqx, Jraan-zhih-chohx: Three syllable line Classic (a primer)	
Shihxghenqx: Classic of Odes (contrast	

(ii) Names of plays

Craangwhuuhx zheoy zhawx 離姑道舟	Shaysheonqx 西廂: Western Chamber
Draai Fhunq-seonqv 大封相	Tronq Baak-fuur dirm Chawxheonqx
Gao-ghaanq thinx 九夏天	唐伯虎點秋香
Mraai-jraw Lronqv 賣油郎	Zhonqzir si chayx 莊子試妻

(e) Geographical names, including names of continents, countries, places, streets and shops(i) Continents (transliterations)

A-fhey-lrei-ghaah Zhaw(x) (or Fhey Zhaw): Africa	Qhaw-lroh-blaah Zhaw(x) (or Qhaw Zhaw): Europe
A-mree-lrei-ghaah Zhaw(x) (or Mree Zhaw): America	Qou-drei-lrei-a Zhaw(x) (or Qou Zhaw(x) or Xoejreong Zhaw(x)): Australia
A-sai-a Zhaw(x) (or A Zhaw(x)): Asia	

(ii) Countries

Transliterated names of countries not very well known or not long in use are unmodified, such as Bhoahlraann (Poland), Dhakjizi (Germany), Jhenqghatlei (England), Jidraailrei (Italy), Prowtrowngraaah (Portugal), but if such names end in a high-falling-tone syllable then modification usually occurs. The following are some examples:

<sup>1</sup> The Cantonese use the "Calendar book" as a sort of encyclopaedia, as it includes a great deal of information in life, including the fixing of lucky and unlucky days for all sorts of activities. But "shyh" "book" has unfortunately a homophone meaning "to lose a bet" and the mere mention of the sound may cause bad luck and so the word "seng" "to win" is exchanged for "shyh", and so the book can be mentioned without incurring bad luck in betting etc.

Faatraannshayx: France  
 Mrakshayghohx: Mexico  
 Mreelreighinix-Xrapzung gwok; (the last three syllables being usually left out for abbreviation): U.S.A.

Ngrohlrohshihx (now Showlynn, Soviet Union, unmodified): Russia

Holland, however, occupies a special category, as it is transliterated into Xrohlraann, but pronounced as Xrohlraannx, in imitation of what the Cantonese believed to be the correct pitch in the foreign language. As Holland has had a rather long commercial connection with the Cantonese, her name must have a longer history in the dialect than the transliterated names of other European countries. For some European countries which have been trading with China for a long while before China thought of printing a map of the world in Chinese, special Cantonese names have been given to them, and these are modified:

Fhaahkreiv (Flowery flag): of the U.S.A. Xrunqmrowv (Red Hair): English or British  
 Fratlaannxshayx: France  
 Shayjreongv (West Ocean): Portuguese or Maccanese

Names of countries in Asia long known by the Cantonese are, of course, modified.

Cimlrohv: Siam Qhonnraamv: Indo-China  
 Nraammjreongv(v): South Sea or Malaya Zhaahxwraahv: Java

### (iii) Names of cities and towns

Those of China are unmodified so that we have the following examples:

Bhakghenq: Peking (but in Ghenqx xei modification occurs. Another name for 京戲, Capital or Northern-style Drama, Canton is "Saarng-sreanq" "provincial modification occurs) city" which is often modified to Saarng-sreanqv)  
 Gwornghaw: Canton (but when this is the name of a familiar shop or restaurant Nraammghenq: Nanking

When, however, we have familiar transliterated names of foreign lands, or transliterated names with a high falling tone in the last syllable, or Chinese names (of long standing) for foreign places (as opposed to transliterated names) modification occurs:

Beinhanqx (or Beinhanqx): Penang Mrokshihfhoix: Moscow  
 Ghatrunqbhoix: Kuala Lumpur Shanngaabhohx: Singapore  
 Grau Ghammshaanx: San Francisco Shan Ghammshaanx: Melbourne  
 Lreonnheonnx: London Whannghohxwraahv: Vancouver

### (iv) Names of places and streets

Booxeng Fhonqx 寶慶坊 Ghuk-frauv 穀埠  
 Chatzirmuuv 七姊妹 Jreong Xrongv 橋巷  
 Daaxrohvgheix 帶河基 Lraizhih Whaannx 荔枝灣  
 Draaishann Ghaaix 大新街 Lrohghonqx Drungv 羅岡洞  
 Fhaahdrai > Fhaahdreiv 花墟 Mrae-frauv 米埠

Nraammnbhak Xronqv 南北行  
 Ngrt-shinnx Mruunnv 五仙門  
 Shaahraghaannx 三十間  
 Shaahxroh 沙河  
 Shannsrعانqv 新城

Srapshaamm Xronqv 十三行  
 Whuu/hjih Xrongv 烏衣巷  
 Wraahlaram Zriv 華林寺  
 Wrenqwaah Lreev 榮華里  
 Wronqvshaahx 黃沙

N.B. All the older names for streets, lanes, etc., are modified, such as fhonqx, ghaaix, lreev, xrongv and xronqv; but modern streets and roads given the names, "drou" 道 and "lrou" 路 are not modified.

### (v) Names of shops

Creonq-taiv  
 Ghow-shenqx  
 Jri-xrapv  
 Shaamm-dhohx  
 Shanq-lreiv  
 Wraah-mreev  
 Xrunq-faatv

Draai-shannx  
 Gwong-zhawx  
 Nraamm-jrynnv  
 Shaan-wraahv  
 Shin-shihx  
 Wrenq-qhonnx  
 Zhan-gwhonqx

Familiar last syllables for shop names are . . . Cheonqx 昌

. . . Shanqx 生 . . . Wroh 和 . . . Lunqv 隆  
 . . . Faatv 發 . . . Taaiv 泰, etc.; all modified

There is, however, a last syllable of disyllabic shop-names, in high falling tone, which does not seem to take to modification easily. I am referring to shops with names like Bhakghenq (Peking) and Nraammghenq (Nanking). Probably these unmodified place-names help to prevent their modification even when they are used as names of shops.

In the case of trisyllabic shop-names usually modification does not occur.

### (f) Parts of the body and illnesses and maladies

#### (i) Parts of the body

bhinnx: queue, pigtail  
 breilreongv: bridge of the nose  
 creonqv: intestines  
 daughayxngraavn: squinting eyes  
 geok<sup>1</sup>: leg or foot (baatzrigeok(v), "turned out-feet", and daucrunqcrunqv "turned in feet" are modified; and zhyhgeokv "pig's trotter" is also modified)  
 geokgwahaahx: calf of leg  
 jhiw<sup>1</sup>: waist, but it also means kidney of animals, then it is modified, as in zhyhjhixw "pig's kidney"  
 jreonnv: liver of animal or fowl  
 jrir<sup>1</sup>: ear  
 jirzae-dheonqx, jirdeor-zhimnx: tip of ear

jirzhyhx: lobe of ear  
 lreit<sup>1</sup>: tongue (but lreitroyx "furze of tongue" is modified)  
 mrin<sup>1</sup>: face (but "bee mrinv" "doing a great favour" is modified)  
 mrinphuuyx: shape of face  
 mrinzhyhx: cheek  
 mrinzhyhxdhanx: rounded part of cheek  
 ngraam<sup>1</sup>: eye  
 ngraambraakv: white of eye  
 ngraamjhapmrowv: eyelashes  
 ngraamzhyhx: pupil of eye  
 saot<sup>1</sup>: hand  
 saogwahaahx: upper arm  
 saozirhung<sup>1</sup>: thumb

<sup>1</sup> Unmodified names of parts of the body are underlined

saozirmreex: little finger, which is also called "ngaetoodreiv"  
 Saozizhumm: tip of finger  
 shammx: heart; also shammdreiv, "one's nature, disposition".  
 shannx: body  
 shatrawghotx: knee  
 sran<sup>1</sup>: kidney (human); but "ghay sranv" or "ghay kramv" "chicken gizzard", in whichever pronunciation, is modified  
 sreong-ngrr-cynv-xraa-ngrr-cynv: middle portion of the shin

(ii) Illnesses and maladies

cheot drauv: having smallpox  
 cheot mraahv: having measles  
 faat fhunqx: having leprosy  
 jhiwx breang: kidney trouble  
 laathex: ringworm in the scalp  
 nghanqx: bulgy growth around ankle, heel, wrist, etc.  
 ngraarmthiwzxhammx: sty

(g) Food and drink(i) With native names

bearngghonnx: biscuits  
 beang seoiv: cake crumbs  
 bhaawx: unleavened rolls with filling  
 braakjrawv: soya sauce  
 brinfraanv: unceremonious meal (not specially prepared for an honoured guest)  
 chaa/shiwx: roast pork-strips  
 chawxjrawv: soya sauce  
 crannprey-mruuyv: pickled plums  
 draanv: egg  
 draanvwronqv: yolk (sheonqx wronqv, "double-yolked egg")  
 dran jryntrayv: stewed pork  
 fhaannsrh-ghonnx: dried sweet-potato strips.  
 frey zhyh nhannx: fatty pork  
 gao draaigwraiv: nine big diahes  
 ghaydraanghowx: sponge cake  
 ghaykrarmv, ghaysranv: chicken gizzard  
 gwuuntrawv: tinned foods  
 jhat-ghayx-shaamm-mreiv: triple dishes made from chicken

traw<sup>1</sup>: head, but "lruktrawv", lit. green head "wife's lover" is modified  
 troo<sup>1</sup>: stomach, but "zhyh troov" "pig's stomach" or "ngraw troov", "ox's stomach" is modified  
 trunqjranv: pupil of eye  
 xrawlraarmv: Adam's apple  
 xrawbrunq<sup>1</sup>: throat  
 xrawwratv: tonsils  
 zirghunqx: womb

shaanq chonqx: to have a boil  
 shaanq (or xee) fhunqmrokv: to have urticaria  
 shaanq lrawv: to have a tumour  
 shaanq lreakv, shaanq gearnglreakv: to have goitre  
 shaanq wratv: to have an enlarged gland  
 wronqv sreik: jaundice

jreahshihx: shredded coconut  
 jryh-jrynnv: fish-ball  
 jryh-piniv: fish slices  
 lraap-creonqv: sausages  
 lraap-mreiv: preserved meats  
 lraarmv-gokv, lraarmv-sriv: pickled olive in halves  
 lraizhixh ghonnx: dried laichee  
 lunqngraarnv ghonnx: dried lunqngraarnv  
 mrak-piniv: oats  
 ngrrxheonqx: spices  
 saatkreaumraarv: a kind of pastry  
 shaamm-zhenqx: thrice distilled spirit  
 sheonq-zhenqx: twice distilled spirit  
 shiwjreav: midnight meal  
 shiwmaarv: a kind of steamed pastry  
 showxtronqv: a kind of sweet  
 shynn-mruuyv: crystallized green plums  
 sio-frungv beang: little biscuits with centres  
 sythowx: ice cream  
 tronqv: sweets

wranthannx: steamed pastry in soup  
 wruuhzhiw mruutv: pepper  
 xheonq-lriuv: spices  
 xraamm draanv: salted egg  
 xraamv: filling in pastry or unleavened rolls  
 zaatrayv: stuffed trotter of pig  
 zhyh creonqv: pig's intestines  
 zhyh geokv: pig's trotter

zhyh jhiwx: pig's kidney  
 zhyh jreonnv: pig's liver  
 zhyh troov: pig's stomach  
 zhyh zhaanqxtrayv: pig's foot  
 zoochaannx: breakfast  
 zraapseoiv: chopsuey  
 zungv: dumpling

(ii) With transliterated names

bratbraannxdreiv: brandy  
 dhohxsriv: toast  
 gaafheahx: coffee  
 greilrimmx: cream

shaammvrannzriv: sandwiches  
 whayxsrigriv, whayxsrigriv: whisky  
 zhixsriv: cheese

(h) Fruits, nuts, plants, trees, herbs and vegetables(i) Fruits and nuts

cranqv: orange  
 fhaahxshanqx: ground nut  
 fhunqreotv: chestnut  
 ghammx: tangerine orange  
 ghayshammcrihv: a small persimmon  
 ghonqhimunx: an edible berry  
 jreonqtrawv: willow peach (carambola)  
 laizhixh: laichee  
 Lreoesung-mhonqx: Mango (from Luzon, transliterated)  
 lunqngraarnv: a Cantonese fruit  
 mraartrayv: water chestnut  
 Nraammwraah-ireev: plums (from Nraammwraah)

nrammcrihv: soft persimmon  
 nrenqmrunqx: lemon (transliteration)  
 prannprohv: a fruit, like chestnut when cooked  
 prowtrayv: grapes (or prowtrayzir, unmodified)  
 prowtrowv: a fruit  
 seocrihv: hard persimmon  
 shaahreyv: a brown pear  
 Shaahrinn-jrawv: pomelo (from Shatin)  
 wronqpreyv: a fruit  
 zhiwx: banana

(ii) Plants, trees, herbs and vegetables

braiv, shekbraiv: seed of weed (among rice grains)  
 crunq<sup>1</sup>: pine  
 crunq-mhaawx: pine needles  
 crunq-xheonqx: resin  
 dhongqwhayx: a herb  
 fhaahx-fraanv: petals  
 fhaahx-shammx: middle (heart) of a flower  
 fhaahx-tokv: sepals  
 fhaannsrh: sweet potato  
 fhaannxkreaiv: tomato  
 gaailraanv: a green vegetable like turnip tops  
 gaocoiv: leeks  
 gotv: an edible root

jreahv: coconut  
 lhawx, cheanq-lhawx: betel leaves, for chewing with the betel-nuts  
 mraaodhaannx: peony  
 mrukwsaanv-zir: a dried fruit which produces lather for washing fine silks (sapindus mukorossi gaertii)  
 seoeshinx: narcissus  
 sry<sup>1</sup>: tree  
 sryshaawx: top of tree  
 sryshannx: tree trunk  
 sryzhixh: branches, twigs  
 wronqgwhaahx: cucumber  
 zirtraanv: wistaria

<sup>1</sup> Unmodified names of parts of the body are underlined.<sup>1</sup> Unmodified names of this section are underlined.

(i) *Fish and fowl*(i) Fish (including shell fish)

ghammjryhv: goldfish  
 jryhv: fish  
 krenq jryh<sup>1</sup>: whale (*N.B.* a big fish)  
 lrunqhaahx: lobster  
 praanqkreyv: a small crab  
 shaahjryhv: shark  
 toolreanqjryhv: a kind of dace

trinnrohv: snail.  
 wronqfhaahx: a kind of fish  
 wronqzraapv: a kind of fish  
 xhaahx: prawn or shrimp  
 xhaahx-mrowx: small shrimps  
 zhayxjryhv: a kind of small fish

(ii) Fowl

bhaannxghawx: turtle-dove  
 braakgaapv: pigeon or dove  
 braakjinv: canary  
 diujryhronqv: kingfisher  
 frungv: phoenix  
 ghayx: chicken  
 ghayghunqx: cockerel  
 ghayxrongv: pullet  
 jiniv: swallow  
 mraahzeokv: sparrow  
 ngaapv: duck  
 ngrohv: goose  
 pranq<sup>1</sup>: roc (large, mythical bird, less familiar than the phoenix)

qhammcheonnx: quail  
 qhanqghohx, nghanqghohx: a kind of talking bird, a parrot  
 shaahzheoyx: a kind of bird  
 wraamreyv: thrush  
 wrohfaahzeokv: rice bird  
 wronqghanqx: oriole  
 xrokv: crane, stork  
 xurngzeokv: peacock  
 zeagwhuuhx: partridge  
 zeokv<sup>1</sup>: bird (but "zeokzae"<sup>1</sup> "little bird" is unmodified)  
 zhyhsirzaahv: black thrush

(j) *Animals, reptiles and insects*(i) Animals

craayronqv: wolf  
 gao<sup>1</sup>: dog  
 jreonqv: sheep  
 mrinnjreonqv: woolly sheep  
 coo-jreonqv, shaantjreonqv: goat  
 kreybreonnv: unicorn  
 breoyv: donkey (breoyzix in nursery language<sup>2</sup>)  
 roofuur<sup>1</sup>: tiger (*cf.* "gao"; "fuur" is also a middle rising tone)  
 roosyr<sup>1</sup>: rat, mouse (*cf.* "gao"; "syr" is also a middle rising tone)

lrukv: deer  
 mraar: horse ("mraar" is a low rising tone)  
 mraarlawx: monkey  
 mraawx: cat  
 ngraw(v): cow  
 shibx: lion  
 wronqghanqx: small brown antelope  
 xrunqjranv: bear  
 zhyhx: pig

(ii) Reptiles and insects

gaapgwaaiv, gapgwaaiv: a kind of toad  
 graatzraatv: cockroach  
 geokjryhv, seojryhv: turtle  
 gwhayx: tortoise  
 jrimsreahv: small lizard  
 krammkreoyv: toad  
 krammlrowv: spider  
 (krammlrowshi/mrorngx: spider's web)  
 mraanrgv: grasshopper

mratv, mratfhunqx: bee  
 ngraangxok-crunqv: beetle  
 seigeok-sreahv: a big lizard  
 trinnghayx: frog  
 whuu/jrenqx: fly  
 wrohcrunqv: edible worm (*lit.* rice worm)  
 wruuhdripv: butterfly  
 zhi/zhyhx: small spider  
 zhukzitv: cricket

<sup>1</sup> Unmodified names of these sections are underlined.<sup>2</sup> The nursery rhyme says "Jhiwxjrix, breoyzix".(k) *Familiar persons or objects, connected with the house and home*(i) Persons

canghaah lronqv: servants of relatives-by-marriage  
 draaikramv: women accompanying a bride  
 ghaah-trenq-lrokv: anything or activity that is within the scope of enjoyment by the family circle  
 jreah-mruunnv: temporarily employed men-servants at a wedding

jryt-prohv: woman in confinement  
 nraamm-xaakv: male guest  
 nreoe-xaakv, tronq-xaakv: female guest  
 pruuyjrytv: midwife or woman-servant to a mother before and after childbirth  
 zihxaakv: receiver of guests, master of ceremonies on special occasions in the home, business-manager in a monastery

(ii) Objects, including parts of house, furniture, personal effects, and other things found in a house

baakjripv-cheonqx, paakjripv-cheonqx: shutters  
 bhakrawjranv: back scratcher  
 bhinnx-praayv: bunch of hair for thickening and lengthening one's pigtail  
 bhiwx: watch  
 bhoibreix: glass (transliteration)  
 breijhinnx-wruuhv: snuff bottle  
 breiv: fine comb  
 cearmgtipv: invitation card  
 ceongpinv: gramophone records  
 chaahx: fork  
 chaannxronqv, chaannxtheanqx: dining room  
 cheonqxmruunnv: window  
 craahgheyx: tea table  
 craahwruuhv: tea pot  
 craahwruuhrohx: Chinese tea-cosy  
 creonqshaammx: long gown  
 crihghanqx: spoon  
 crihronqv: ancestral hall in village  
 crinnv: money  
 cryhronqv: kitchen  
 crynzhanngheyx: television (its other name "drinri" is unmodified)  
 daaiv: belt, sash  
 dang<sup>1</sup>: stool (but "braak baarndang", a card in Chinese dominoes, is modified)  
 daolrenqv: 5 cent piece  
 dhawtroov: purse in girdle  
 deoiv: couplet usually written on a pair of scrolls  
 dhanqx: lamp, light  
 dhowx: knife  
 draailhawx: overcoat  
 dreiv: floor, ground  
 dreixraav: floor, ground, ground-floor

dreizhinnx: carpet, rug  
 drinwraav: telephone  
 dripv: plate  
 fanfronqv: bedroom  
 fhaahjrynnv: garden  
 fhaahprenqv, fhaahzheonnx: vase  
 fhunqlrowv: oven  
 fronqv: room  
 gai-ngaav: thick pin for holding up the knob of hair at the back of the head  
 gearng-daaiv: neck-tie  
 gearng-ghanx: scarf  
 gearng-lrinv: necklace  
 ghammzxae: a gold coin, a sovereign  
 ghaymrow-sou: feather duster  
 jerngseong(v)gheyx: camera  
 jhinnzxae: cigarette  
 jirdinv, jirzinv: flat cushion  
 jreonq-ghamunx sinv: gold thread for embroidery  
 jribrawv: first floor  
 jrir-waatv: pin for scratching head and cleaning ears  
 jrir-wraannv: ear-rings  
 jrukv: mattress (but "jrukzir"<sup>1</sup> "mattress")  
 kauv: clasp  
 krahbawv: verandah, balcony  
 longv: a frame, a shelf  
 braammv: basket  
 lawv: upstairs  
 lrimnv: curtain  
 mrannx-zeongv: mosquito net  
 mheahx-daaiv: a square cloth with four long straps for strapping a baby to one's back  
 mraargwaav, mraarkwaav: short jacket over long gown

<sup>1</sup> Unmodified names are underlined.

mrak-jrinv: ink slab  
 mrenq-piniv, mrenq-tipv: visiting card  
 mrin-pruunnv: wash basin  
 mrouv: hat  
 mrowghannx: towel  
 mruunn<sup>1</sup>: door (also "draai-mruunn"<sup>1</sup> "main door", but "crinn-mruunnv" "front door", "wraanq-mruunnv" "side door", "xrau-mruunnv" "back door" are modified)  
 mruunn-gwhuunnx: guardian spirit of the door  
 ngaakv: bracelet  
 nghaahchaahx: a long pole with a branched twig on one end for reaching up for things  
 ngraah-caatv: toothbrush  
 ngraarbuuiv: roof  
 ngraam-geangv: spectacles  
 ngrann-bhaawx: purse  
 ngranncrinnv: dollar  
 ngrmmrei-gaav: cructs on stand  
 preemriniv: top side of quilt  
 preedhaannx: sheet tacked on quilt  
 prenqfhunqx: screen  
 preyv: fur-coat, fur-lined coat  
 saaipraanqv: flat roof top  
 sao-bhiwx: wrist-watch  
 sao-ghanx: face flannel  
 sao-ghanxzax: handkerchief  
 sao-mratv, sao-touv: gloves

(1) *Familiar persons or things not directly connected with the house and home.*

(i) Persons

baakjreahxghunqx: old man  
 baakjreahxprohv: old woman  
 craakv: thief, robber  
 fhaahdraanv: female impersonator or actress in traditional drama  
 ghaammfraanv: gaol-bird, convict  
 gwhanndreioiv: troops  
 lraanvzax: ruffian, gangster  
 lroodraaiv-ghunqx: old man  
 lroodraaiv-prohv, lroo taaprohv: old woman  
 mreifhann-chayx: fiancée  
 mreifhann-fhuuhx: fiancé  
 mreifhannx: the affianced  
 mrowlraaiv: an undesirable character  
 mruuyjranv: go-between  
 nraamm-jranv: man  
 nreoe-jranv: woman

seongv: portrait, photograph  
 shaammfhannrukv: 5 cent piece  
 shaamm-lrawv: second floor  
 shaammx: jacket, clothing  
 sheonqxrowv: 20 cent piece  
 shinxx, shinxxsriv: cent (transliteration)  
 shohx: comb  
 srann-xhammx: niche for an idol  
 srannzypraayv: ancestral tablet  
 taatzhaanqx-xraayv: shoe with a collapsed heel, said of impoverished families still living in fashionable part (west) of Canton  
 thinnpraanqv: flat roof-top  
 thinnroyv: flat-roof garden  
 thohx-xraayv: slippers  
 toodreiv: Earth-god  
 trowwraav: pictures, paintings  
 trowzheonqx: a seal  
 troyv: table  
 wraarnbryannv: obituary couplet  
 wraykwrannv: apron  
 xaaktheanqx, theanqx: sitting room, parlour  
 xraay-bratv, xraay-chawx: shoe horn  
 xraay-jreongv: cut-out paper pattern for making shoes  
 xrohbbhaawx: purse  
 zheahx: umbrella  
 zheonnx: bottle  
 zhuk-lrimmv: bamboo blind  
 zooshinnx: ancestors (spirits of)

saanvzax: an unemployed, usually connected with the underworld  
 sailooghohx: child  
 searng-prohv, mransearng-prohv: female medium  
 shann-faat-croyv: the newly-rich  
 shann-lronqv, shann-lronq-ghohx: bridegroom  
 shann-nreonqv: bride  
 shyhjaov: fellow-student  
 siojranv: small man (usually evil)  
 siomhohx: pick-pocket  
 srohgwahaahx: a fool, a sod  
 xhatjrihx: beggar  
 xhoyfhonqx-ngraw(v): the unrequited pioneer or a person who is dropped after he has rendered much service

(ii) Things

bhaahxsriv: bus (transliteration)  
 bhak-fhunqx: north wind, dry cold weather  
 bhat-gaav, bhat-shenqx: stand for resting brushes on  
 bhat-taapv: caps for brushes  
 bheng-srynnv: troopship or warship  
 braak-creahv: white gaberdine  
 braanv: samples  
 cealrouv: a road up a rise or hill  
 chat-zrekv: 7th day of the 7th Moon, a festival  
 cheahx: car, carriage  
 cheahxzax: rickshaw  
 Chenqrinn-wruuiv: Y.M.C.A.  
 cheonx-thinnx: Spring  
 cheonqx: rifle, pistol, etc.  
 cheonqx mraarv: bullets, shots  
 chirunx: posture of kneeling on one knee, as in "daar go chimmx" "making the posture of kneeling on one knee"  
 craahcraahv: cymbals  
 daamthiwx: bamboo or wooden rod for carrying loads across shoulder  
 daamv: a load  
 dhaa: dozen (transliteration)  
 dhaanxcheahx: bicycle  
 dhangx-mrayv: riddles  
 dheksriv: taxi (transliteration)  
 dong-piuv: pawn-shop ticket  
 dreav: a pipe (musical instrument)  
 driuv: a tune  
 droimruuiv: tortoise shell (literary: droimrou)  
 drouv: ferry, barge  
 drouv: measurements  
 drynv: satin  
 faai-cheahx: express train  
 fhaannxthaannx: fantan, a kind of game (in gambling)  
 fhonqx-gaakv: squares  
 fhungshex: weather, weather forecast  
 fhungshenqx: news, signs (of danger or safety).  
 fuur-craahv: Chinese medicine (in children's language)  
 gaivzax: plot, trick  
 gaakrey-lreonnsav: neighbours  
 ghaammx: prison  
 ghaaw-lreonv, or thaa: tyre (transliteration)  
 ghaayfhonqx: neighbours, people in same street or locality  
 ghammx: gold  
 ghunqjrynnv: (public) botanical garden  
 ghunqjhonn-grukv: police station  
 goklhoktrawv, goktrawv: corner  
 graiv: a chat as in "khenq graiv"  
 griuv: sedan chair  
 Gwhuunnwraav: Mandarin  
 gwuurwruunv: curios  
 jhihgrukv: hospital, public dispensary  
 jhihrynv: hospital  
 jratgeibrouv: diary  
 jratgwhonqx, jratrawv: the sun, sunlight  
 jrat-srynv: day-boat  
 jratv: the sun  
 jrawzenggrukv: post-office  
 jrea-srynnv: night boat  
 jreok-jrynnv: tablets (medicine balls)  
 jreok-saanv: (medicinal) powder  
 jrjrynnv: a 2-stringed instrument, also called "ngrihngihx"  
 jrukv: jade  
 jrjunqv: woollen material  
 jrytv: the moon  
 laabhaahx: a trumpet  
 lhaang: knitting wool (transliterated from "laine"?)  
 lhunqx: hole, cavity  
 lreydrangv: scales  
 lriuv: dress material, ingredients in cooking  
 lohv: gong  
 mhai: mile (transliteration)  
 mraaw-lriwv: thatched hut  
 mrannv: essay, article  
 mratgrinv: things, objects  
 mriuv: temple  
 mruk-seoiv: bits of wood  
 mruk-xhonqx: saw-dust  
 nraammfhunqx: south wind blowing, damp weather  
 nraammfhunqx-thinnx: moist weather  
 ngrannv: silver, money  
 paau-mraarv: bullets, shots  
 po-jratv: inauspicious day  
 pou-bhiwx: a kind of raffle ticket for monetary prize  
 praayfhonqx: monumental gateway (to commemorate chaste widows, filial children, etc.)  
 praaw-craayv: wood shavings  
 preypraahv: the pyipa, a musical instrument  
 seon-caapv: letter holder, usually hanging on the wall  
 seon-zaatv: book of model letters  
 shaann-bhiwx: a kind of raffle ticket for a monetary prize  
 Shaanndhunq-crawv: shantung silk  
 shaannwruuhv: coral

<sup>1</sup> Unmodified names of this section are underlined.

shihx: poem	wraiv: a seat
shiw: flute	wraansreakv: marble
shyh/honqxpouv: booksellers and station- ers	wronqcreahv: yellow or brown gaberdine
shyhjrynv: school	wruuh-krammv: a musical instrument
shyh-sheonq: book-box	wruuiv: club, society
sinlrokv: network bag	xheoyx: village market
siurwraav: a joke	xoo-jratv: auspicious day
sorlrinv: chains	xrapv: box
sridhaammx: stamp (transliteration)	xrunq-seontrunqx: red pillar box
sridhohx: store (transliteration)	zaadraanv: bomb
srigrinv: inside of a watch, machine or engine	zhanqx: a musical instrument
thohx-srynnv: tugboat	zhyhx: pearl
tokpruunnv: tray	zoo-cheahx: morning train
tranqtriwv: a cane (rattan)	zribrouv: exercise book, copybook
trayv: examination question, title of essay, etc.	zrigaakv: squares for practising writing
trenqv: kind, type, sort, as in "nhi trenqv zir" "this kind of paper"	zritipv: model characters for practice of calligraphy
Tronqwraav: Cantonese	zriiv: monastery
trunqghukzryv: co-tenant	zrongfong(v): conditions, circumstances (see S. L. Wong's "Syllabary", p. 43)
wraanq-ngraakv: horizontal scroll or horizontal board with characters	zrongv: appeal to court, accusation
wraanqseoedrouv: cross-river ferry	zrynv: biography
	zynv: a turn, a turn round, a moment as in "daar go synv" "in a moment"

## (m) Games and things used at games

bhatdoojhunqx, or zzoizaonrengv: heavy- based doll used to point out next drinker at drinking bouts	paauzreongv: fire-crackers
bhohx: ball (transliteration)	pheapraayv: playing cards (foreign)
chinshawx: swing	saarmraanqghayx, z(h)ukmraanqghayx: to play at blind man's buff
crawv: tally (in games)	shenqghuunntrowv: dice game on a chart of offices of all official ranks
fhunqzhanqx: kite	zaopruunnv, lreonnpruunnv: roulette
ghunqxae: doll	z(h)ukjrihxjranx: to play at catching
jinv, jinvzir: shuttlecock	z(h)ukkreyyv: to play chess
krawv: ball	zirjriwv: kite
mraahzeokv: Majong (but "chingao" "Chinese Dominoes" not modified; "gao" is in the middle rising tone)	zirpraayv: playing cards (usually said of native kind, to be distinguished from foreign kind)

## (n) Professions, jobs, crafts, positions or ranks, tools, implements, etc., and familiar terms in crafts, business or professions

## (i) Professions, jobs, crafts, positions or ranks

bhokzhaayx: a teacher, a tutor (who used to hit one on the head)	cheonqx: a substitute in examinations, hence "cearnq cheonqx" means "asking someone to do one's homework or examination"
bhonqbraanv: Inspector of police (a Hong- kong term)	cryhv: cook, chef
chaayx: policeman (old term, still used in Hongkong)	dhaamm-daamv (gea), or thiw-daamv (gea) porter, coolie, or hawker
cheahx-fhuuhx: chauffeur	

draai-bhaanrx: manager (a Hongkong term)	lreotshihx, zrongshihx: solicitor, barrister
draai-cheahx: Chief engineer (a Hongkong term)	mraebraanv: compradore (a Hongkong term)
draai-gaiv: purser (a Hongkong term)	mrukshihx: pastor
draaikarmv: temporarily employed women-servants at a wedding	mruk-zreongv: carpenter
Drou-ghaahx: Taoist	mruuix: maid, slave-girl
fortrawv: cook (a Hongkong term)	ngrrzrokv: undertaker
ghannbhaanrx: retainers, followers	prohnhahx: amah
griuv-fhuuhx: (sedan) chair-coolie	shihgwhuuhx: (Buddhist) nun
gwhayx: a procurer	searzirv: clerk
gwhuulhei: coolie (transliteration)	shaanqi-ghaahx: businessmen
gwuumghunqx, gwuumghunqxtrawv: foreman	shihfruvv: master (of a craft)
jhihshanqx: doctor	siofraanv: hawker, trader
jreahmruunnv: temporarily employed male- servants at a wedding	sritrawv: master, boss
jri-bhaanx: Assistant-Manager (a Hong- kong term)	trunqghuunn(x): male-servants at cere- monious occasions
jri-cheahx: assistant-engineer (a Hongkong term)	trowdraiv: apprentice
jri-gaiv: assistant purser (a Hongkong term)	wraav-ghaahx: painter
Jryh-ghaahx: Confucianist	wrohsreongv: (Buddhist) monk
lhoughaahx: a spiv, an opportunist	xraushaanqx: boy-servant
iraapsaap-bhonqx: sanitary inspector (a Hongkong term)	xrokshaanqx: pupil, student
	zhynn(x)mruunghaahx: specialist
	zrynrinnv-mruuix: young woman-servant
	zrynrinnv-zae: boy-servant
	zyrfaanv: cook (female)
	zyrjranv: master
	zyzok-ghaahx: writer

## (ii) Tools, implements, etc.

co(v): file, rarely modified. <i>N.B.</i> It is in the middle level tone. Modified according to S. L. Wong's "Syllabary", p. 3, cf. "geoi" or "geo" "a saw", unmodified, again a middle level tone	lrohghaanqx: a compass
creoyv: hammer	lrohshihxmhayx, lrohshihxphayx: a screw- driver
dheanqx: nail	lrohshihxzynv: a cork-screw
fuurtrawv: axe	mrov: a hand-mill
jheoyx: awl	praawv: a plane
krimmv: tongs, pliers	tranqpraayzheahx: shield (rattan)
	zhunqxamv: a pounding arrangement worked by standing on one end of it
	zrokv: a chisel, a gouge

## (iii) Familiar terms in business, craft or profession

fhaahmraarv-zri: trade numerals	poutrawv: shop
ghaahjrungv(gea): home-made thing(s)	seilruk, seilrukgeov: the four-six style of parallel prose
ghunqshihx: a company	Trunqrenq-paav: scholars who follow the Tongcherng school (桐城派)
gwuurdhunqx: a share holder	Xonxrok-paav: Ching scholars who fol- lowed the style of Hann writers
gwuurfranv: shares	xraay-ghammx: commission for getting one a flat, house, etc.
jreongxronqv: foreign firm	xronqghaahx: expert in a trade or pro- fession
jrinngrannv: cash	xronqv: firm, company
jrungv(-ngrann): commission	zhynnrxmruunnv: expert
phinn(x)mruunnv, as in "zrou phinnx- ruunnv shaanqi gea" or "zao phinnx- ruunnv gea": dealing in undesirable business, or in something which contra- venes the law	

## II. CLASSIFIERS AND ADJECTIVES

(a) *Classifiers*

jhat mreiv coi: a dish  
 jhat ngraarnv dheanqx: a nail  
 jhat ngraarnv zhamm: a needle

jhat wraiv jrannxaak: a guest (spoken  
 politely)

(b) *Adjectives*

Most of the adjectives or adjectival phrases in the modified tones which I have noted are of the descriptive kind, but there are also a few examples of numerals and adjectives describing shapes pronounced in the modified tones.

(i) *Descriptive adjectives*

bhat-thunqx: unreasonable, unintelligent  
 brok-preyv: touchy, over-sensitive  
 caojreongv: ugly  
 ceonggokv: slanting, like an angle  
 chat-chat-baatv: almost complete  
 crann-xirn-nraamv: long winded, boring,  
 (originally the name of a Cantonese  
 man)  
 creonqbaaannx-(cheahx): permanently  
 hired rickshaw  
 creonq-fhonqx: rectangular, oblong  
 creonq-trunqv (mrar): long (stockings)  
 dhaann-iriuiv: flimsy make  
 dhaannx: single  
 dhenqfhonqx: square  
 dhitzmhannx: very spoiled, going into a  
 huff easily  
 drai-jriv: second  
 drai-mreex: the last  
 drai shaammx: third  
 driudriuv-feng: dangling  
 farn-xrunqv, seoe-xrunqv: pink  
 fhaah-braakv (trawfaat): grey (hair)  
 fhonqgaakv (brouv): squared (exercise  
 book)  
 fhuunn-triuv (mrin): wide strip (noodles)  
 fhuuyx: grey  
 gaanxronqv (brouv): ruled (exercise book)  
 gaongraahv: scalloped (edge)  
 gwhuuhneonqx-geokv: a slope seen side-  
 ways from ground level  
 jarnjratv: to be a recluse, to retire  
 jhiwx: one, first  
 jrao-iriuiv: to have knowledge or learning  
 kaalaav: double or divided stake; a double  
 entendre, something between prongs of  
 angle or in the space between two things  
 laaimraawx: cheating  
 lhanqx(zae): a mere boy, a little boy

lraap-lraapv leng: bright, glistening  
 lrapv-gam-lryn: very disorderly  
 lreormgxhoix: two-ply (wool), ambiguous  
 lroodraaiv: old, aged  
 lroylrouv: foreign  
 lyt-zhaayx: behaving like a miser  
 mhaah-trawv: close together, as in "mhaah-  
 trawv gam xoo" "in very close friend-  
 ship"  
 mraahmraahvdriv: so so, to be lenient  
 mrenq-ghunqx: famous (as a doctor)  
 mroo-wronqv-gwuurn: ungovernable, too  
 independent  
 mvowlraaiv: irresponsible  
 mrvh cir-jreongv: not proper in appearance,  
 not doing the right thing  
 mrvh-shaamm mrvh-seiv: unreliable, not  
 orthodox, etc.  
 nghaammx: correct, right  
 ngokjreahx: nasty, like a bully  
 ngoixronqv: not well-versed in the  
 business  
 sai sheanqx: small-voiced, low voiced (con-  
 trast "draai sheanq" "loud", unmodi-  
 fied)  
 shaamm-chaahx (lrouxao) = 3 pronged  
 (road), a fork (road)  
 shaammgok-fruuhv: triangle, like a triangle  
 shaammgrin-trawv: 3 piece suit  
 shaamm-xhoix: 3 ply (wool)  
 shapshapshengshenqx: miscellaneous  
 shayzhonqx: Western style (of clothes)  
 shaumreex: the last, in the end  
 sheonq-jripv: double blades, double set of  
 propellers, etc.  
 sheonq-iriuiv: firm and strong make  
 sheonq-shenqx: initial consonant repeated  
 (in literary composition)  
 sheonq-tokv: double row of petals

sheonq-xokv: double-shelled  
 sheonqx: double  
 shiwocheanqx: enamelled  
 sifhonqx: square  
 srihpaaix: fashionable, more often said of a  
 person, with a slight sense of ridicule  
 srihxhenqx: fashionable, more often said of  
 things than of persons  
 thoysshaanqx: born with certain abnormal  
 or special features  
 tronq-zhonqx: Chinese style (of clothes)

wraatrawv: cunning, to be an opportunist  
 xoo-jrannsriv: kind, good-natured  
 xoo-jreongv: good looking, beautiful  
 xou-mruunv: to have a vice or a hobby  
 xraushaanqx: young, youthful  
 zhayxhunqx: (house) empty, uninhabited  
 zhihghunqx: flimsy, not well made  
 zhihzaawx: very vocal or talkative  
 zorjhaawx: left-handed or left-footed  
 zreong-ngraahv: ivory

(ii) *Adjectives and adjectival phrases connected with size, distance, etc.*

dhekgam-creonqx: very short  
 dhok-gam-dhohx (or -dheohx): very little  
 dhok-gam-jrymx: a very short distance,  
 very near  
 dhok-gam-nroiv: a short while  
 dhok-gam-nroix: a very little while  
 mroo-gee-brokv zhea: not very thin  
 mroo-gee-creonqv zhea: not very long  
 mroo-gee-crungv zhea: not very heavy  
 mroo-gee-dhohx zhea: not very much  
 mroo-gee-draaiv zhea: not very big  
 mroo-gee-fuutv zhea: not very wide  
 mroo-gee-gwaiv zhea: not very expensive  
 mroo-gee-jritv zhea: not very hot  
 mroo-gee-jryrnv zhea: not very far  
 mroo-gee-nroiv zhea: not a long time at all  
 mroo-gee-nroiv (or -nroix): after a little  
 while

mroo-gee-nroix zhea: only a very short  
 while  
 xrai gam creonqv zaa: only so long (i.e.,  
 not long)  
 xrai gam creonqx zaa: only so very short  
 xrai gam crungv zaa: only this weight (not  
 heavier)  
 xrai gam dhohx zaa: only so much (no  
 more)  
 xrai gam draaiv zaa: only so big (not  
 bigger)  
 xrai gam draaiv zaa: only so very small  
 xrai gam fuutv zaa: only so wide (not wider)  
 xrai gam kraov zaa: only so thick (not  
 thicker)  
 xrai gam zaakv zaa: only so wide, only  
 this width, no wider

(iii) *Repetitive adjectives*

Repetition of an adjective is used to denote the sense "rather, a little, so so" if the modified tone occurs in the second syllable of the repetitive adjective. On the other hand if the modified tone occurs (apart from the effect of tone-sandhi) in the first syllable of such a repetitive adjective, then the meaning "very" is indicated instead.

braakbraakv-dreiv: rather white  
 ceakceakv-dreiv: slightly painful  
 chowchowx-dreiv: rather rough, rather un-  
 polished, not specially prepared (meal  
 for guest)  
 creonqcreonqv-dreiv: rather long  
 dho/dhohx-dreiv: rather many, rather  
 much  
 draaidraaiv-dreiv: rather big  
 draamdramv-dreiv: rather cool to one's  
 friends, relatives, etc.  
 dreondreonnv-dreiv: rather blunt, or stupid  
 dryndrynv-dreiv: rather blunt (said of a  
 knife)

dungdungv-dreiv: rather cold  
 graugrauv-dreiv: rather old  
 jritjritv-dreiv: rather hot, warm  
 jryrnjryrnv-dreiv: rather far, rather soft  
 laanlaanv-dreiv: rather soft (said of  
 boiled or stewed meat), rather too ripe  
 laaanglraamv-dreiv: rather cold  
 leonqleonqv-dreiv: rather cool  
 lytlytv-dreiv: rather inferior in quality  
 manmanv-dreiv: rather near the edge, near  
 the end of one's resources  
 mraahmraahv-dreiv: so so, lenient  
 mruurnmruurnv-dreiv: rather full  
 naatnaatv-dreiv: rather scalding

nrymnrymv-dreiv: slightly warm  
qamqamv-dreiv: rather dark  
saisaiv-dreiv: rather small  
shanzshannx-dreiv: rather new  
siusiuiv-dreiv: smiling(ly)  
sratarav-dreiv: rather solid  
traarmtraarmv-dreiv: not salt enough,  
rather cool (to friends, relatives, etc.)  
trimmtrimmv-dreiv: slightly sweet  
wraarwraatv-dreiv: rather slippery, rather  
smooth  
xheonqxheonqx-dreiv: rather fragrant  
xotxotv-dreiv: rather thirsty  
xraanxxraanv-dreiv: not taken seriously  
xrunqxrunqv-dreiv: rather red  
zaakzaakv-dreiv: rather narrow  
zrengzrengv-dreiv: rather quiet, quietly,  
secretly, stealthily  
zrukzruk-dreiv: rather vulgar, rather  
muddy

baakvbaakjim: very or however mis-  
chievous  
braakvbraak: very or however white  
brokvbrok: very or however thin  
creonqvcronq: very or however long  
crumgvcrumg: very or however heavy  
dhohxdhoh: very or however many, very  
or however much  
faaivfaai: very or however fast  
fuutvfuut: very or however wide  
ghowxghow: very or however tall, very or  
however high  
gwaanvgwaan-sruk: very or however inti-  
mate, very or however used to  
gwhonxgwhonq: very or however bright  
gwruiivgwruii: very or however tired  
jauvjausai: very or however fine (in thick-  
ness)  
jreavjrea: however late at night  
jritvjrit: very or however hot  
jrukvjrukarn: very or however anxious,  
very or however impatient  
jrymvjrym: very or however soft (to the  
touch), very or however far  
jrymvjrymsruk: very soft (to the touch)

### III. VERBS

beemrinv: to honour or favour or encourage  
chaaymruuyv: guessing at number of  
fingers at drinking bout  
chicheozynv: turning round and round, not  
being able to stay quiet or still for a  
moment  
crenqjrynv, or nrenqjrynv: would rather

krannvkrannrek: very or however indus-  
trious  
lraanvlraan: very or however broken, very  
or however well-cooked  
lraarnvraarnq: however cold  
lrenqvirenqlrei: very clever, very intelli-  
gent, however clever  
lrokvlokre: putting in great effort, how-  
ever much effort  
lroovlroo: very or however old  
lroovlroosrat: very or however honest  
lytvlyt: very inferior in quality  
mraanvmraan: very slow  
nraanvbraann: however difficult  
nrammvbraamm: very soft (to the touch  
or to the teeth)  
nreivnrei: very greasy  
nroivnroi: however long a time  
ngaanvngaan: very or however late  
ngokvngokjreahx: very or however un-  
reasonable, bullying  
ngraangvngraang: very hard or stiff (to the  
touch), however hard  
qhonnxqhonnlok: very or however happy  
and contented  
saivsai: very or however small  
shannxshann: very or however new  
shannxshannshinn: very or however fresh  
shunqxshunqjrunq: in a very leisurely  
manner  
sratvsrat: very or however tight, very or  
however full  
srukvsruk: very or however well-cooked  
traarmvtraamm: very or however insipid in  
taste  
trimmvtrimm: very or however sweet  
wraaivwraai: very or however bad  
xotvxot: however thirsty  
xrauvxraushaanqx: however young  
xrunqvrunq: very or however red  
zaakvzaak: very or however narrow  
zengvzeng: exactly, right in position, how-  
ever right in position  
zhenqxzhenqsran: very or however well  
and healthy  
zrengvzreng: very or however quiet  
zrivzrijrinn: very or however comfortable

cror jrytv: to be in confinement  
daardhaanx: to blackmail  
daarghaawx: to fight (with fists)  
daarghunq: to be employed  
daarkrynnv: to do Chinese boxing  
deakghaanqx: to run away (after embezzle-  
ment, etc.)

dhak-faatv: to have found the right  
method  
dhawx: to tout, to take notice of someone.  
(It is used more often in the negative  
"mrhdhawx" "not caring to speak with  
someone, would not have anything to do  
with someone")  
faarmrinv: to become angry, to take  
offence suddenly  
fhaanxjrekv: to translate  
gorgsiuv: to joke, to tell a funny story  
jhimx cheonnx: to castrate, or to have been  
castrated  
jrawv-dhak (kreoe): to let him, allow him  
(rural: crawv-dhak kreoe)  
jrawxrohv: to go on a launch picnic  
khenqgraiv: to have a chat  
kwhaahxxao: to boast  
lhaay(x)cear: to make average, to even  
things out  
lhiwx-jrann: to run away from responsi-  
bility, the law, etc.  
lholhozynv: to hang about, clinging to  
someone, refusing to leave someone.  
lraanv-lheak, lraanv-serng: behaving as  
if one were very grand  
mheahx: to carry child on one's back  
mrh-kheanqx: not at all afraid, not caring  
at all  
mrh-zhihx: I don't know, as in "mrh-zhihx  
xrai mrh xrai nhe", "I don't know  
whether it is or not"  
naogaiv: to use cunning or tricks on  
another  
nraammrrohv: to say prayers, to chant  
suras (transliteration)  
ngaaihaawx: to quarrel  
paakthohx: to go courting (modern slang)  
phenqx mreang: to challenge someone to  
the utmost, to risk one's life in competition

seornj-jrytv: to enjoy the view of the full  
moon  
seornj-mrinv: to honour one  
shazfhoix: to end, to make an end of it.  
sreornj-mruunnv: to go to the house of  
patients, etc. (said of doctors, and other  
professional men)  
theoytongv: to make excuses, to be luke-  
warm in response  
warn-dhenqx: to deceive, to take advantage  
of  
wraannv: to play, to amuse oneself, cf. same  
verb in Mandarin, which takes the suffix  
"erl". Also in German "spielen" "to  
play" is capable of taking a diminutive  
suffix, as in "Ermacht sich ein  
Spielchen"  
wraannvwraannv xraarv: not doing one's  
work seriously  
wraarnv: to condole  
wruuy-wraav: to make a reply, to report  
back  
xeoi-dreangv: to go abroad, to tour about  
xhaayx: to provoke (metaphorical use of  
the verb "to touch slightly")  
xhawx: to fall in love with someone, often  
used in the negative sense "mrh xhawx"  
"not caring for someone, not responding  
to another's love"  
xraanqxraanqv: to walk (nursery talk, cf.  
walkie, walkie)  
zao-lrouv: to run away (owing to insol-  
vency), to elope  
zim(jrann)gwhonqx: to enjoy privileges  
with someone, to take advantage of some-  
one's generosity  
zrek-jratv: to be on day duty  
zrek-jreav: to be on night duty

## IV. ADVERBS AND ADVERBIAL PHRASES

### (a) Repetitive adverbs

Some adverbs, or rather adverbial compounds, are formed by repetition  
of an adjective, and modification of tones in these cases generally occurs in  
the second syllable of the phrase (in the case of high falling tones, the  
first as well as the second element of the repetition is changed to high level  
since tone-sandhi operates in the first).

chohchohx: in the beginning  
ghongghonqx: just, only just now  
lreoklreokv: slightly, in outline

mraanmraanv, mraanmraanx: slowly (a  
polite phrase, said when one has finished  
one's meal while others are still eating)

mraanmraanv (xraanq), mraanmraanx (xraanq): (walk) slowly (a polite phrase, said by a host to his departing guests)  
 nroi-roiv, nroi-bhat-nroi, nroi-mrh-nroi: now and then, at intervals  
 ngaammxnngaammx: just, only just now

(b) *Adverbial compounds or phrases (not formed by repetition)*

bhatsramv: not very much, signifying lack of enthusiasm for something  
 buunjreav: at midnight  
 chaahmrhdhohx: nearly, almost  
 chanvshannx: personally, in person  
 cheotnriinv: next year  
 creoybrinv: either way, as you please, any way one likes, not deliberately, not formally  
 crinnriinv: year before last  
 crunq-zhunqx: secretly, behind the scene  
 dhonq-jriinv: naturally  
 dhonq-mriinv: face to face, to someone's face  
 douzynvtraw: on the contrary  
 draaighaahx: mutually, altogether  
 draaijreokv: probably, about  
 draaikoiv: probably  
 draamjratv: days with little business  
 drouv: thereabouts, as in "baat srenq drouv" "about 80%"  
 fhatjringhaanx: suddenly  
 fran-ngroiv: especially  
 gaam-ngraangv: forcibly  
 gam sreongxraav: thereabouts  
 garmjreongv: thus, in this manner  
 ghammriinv: this year  
 gorzansrihv: at that time  
 graunriinv: last year  
 jrea-mraarnv: at night  
 jeok-mrokv: about, approximately  
 jhatcrayv: altogether, at the same time  
 jhatgojrannv, jhatgo jrannx: all alone, all by oneself  
 jhatleotv: all without exception  
 jhatmreiv: intensely, persistently, with undivided attention  
 jhatzranghaanx, jhatzranv: one moment, in a moment  
 jrat-trawv: during the day, daytime  
 jrat-zhunqx: during the day, daily  
 jrishaamnjrytv: around February and March  
 lraebaaillrukmaarnv: Saturday night  
 leormgfranv: you and me, mutually  
 leormgghaahx: mutually  
 leormg-ghunqprohv: husband and wife together

shanvshannx: newly, just acquired, produced, etc.  
 trawtrawv: firstly, in the beginning, the first  
 xheanqxheanqx, xreanqxheanqx: gently (in handling things)  
 zrengzrengv: stealthily, secretly  
 zrimzrimv: gradually, by degrees

mrvhfhonqx: never, as in "Kreoe mrv hfhonqx bhonq-xraar jrann gea" "He never helps anybody"  
 mroo-geexrohv: not often, seldom  
 mrov-jrenq-zhunqx: imperceptibly  
 nhipraayv: recently, lately  
 ngaanzaushammx: midday  
 ngaay-mraarnv, ngaay-mraarnx: at dusk  
 ngraangv-xrai: persistently, as long as; as in "Kreoe ngraangv-xrai garm zrou gea" "He would do that" and "Ngraangv-xrai nree mrv ghonnsip ngor, ngor zrau mrv ghonnsip nree" "As long as you don't interfere with me, I'll not interfere with you"  
 ngroimriinv: on the outside  
 phinnx, phinnxphinnx: deliberately, willfully, as in "Kreoe phinnx jiu garm zrou" "He would do that, of all things!"  
 shihxraav: secretly, unknown to others  
 shinngorpraayv: some time ago  
 sioxrohv: seldom  
 sreonbrinv: doing something incidentally, not going into any trouble at all  
 sreongxraav: nearly, about to  
 tengxxraarx: in a little while (also used as a connective "in case")  
 thinn-mrunqx-gwhonqx: at dawn  
 thunqx (xrai): all (is, are)  
 trawshinnx, krawshinnx: just now  
 xae . . . . shannxgranx, xae . . . . shannx-bhinnx: next to one, very near to one  
 xaannasrihv: ordinarily, when nothing special happens  
 xrai-garm-jiv: making merely the minimum effort in doing something  
 xraunriinv: year after next  
 zhaanqdhv: nearly, almost  
 zhyrvadhanqx, drakdhanqx: deliberately, specially  
 zorjrauv: thereabouts  
 zreng-zhunqx: secretly, quietly, (doing or proposing something behind the back of others)  
 zrigeex: by oneself, all by oneself  
 zrokmraarnv: last night  
 zrukjhatzrukjri(v): one by one, clearly, separately

V. INTERROGATIVES, INTERROGATIVE FINAL PARTICLES AND OTHER FINAL PARTICLES

(a) *Interrogatives*

bhingo(v): who?	gee jryrnv: how far?
bhinsy(v): where?	gee krarnv: how near?
dirmjreongv: how?	gee nraann(v): how difficult?
gee brokv: how thin?	gee nroi: how long (time)?
gee creonqv: how long (measure)?	gee ngraangv: how hard (stiff)?
gee curngv: how heavy?	geesrihv: when?
geedhohx: how many? how much?	gee xraov: how thick?
gee draiv: how big? how old?	mhatjrannv: who, what name?
gee faav: how quick? how fast?	mhatseoyv: who?
gee freyv: how fat?	mhijrearwraav: what did you say? how dare you!
gee fuutv: how wide?	mrv thunqx: do you mean to say . . . . ?
gee ghovx: how tall? how high?	qrohv: Oh, is that so?
gee gwai(v): how much (cost)? how expensive? (more frequently unmodified)	xraiv: Yes? (indicative of great surprise)

(b) *Interrogative final particles*

mheahx: ?, as in "Xrai mheahx" "Is that so?"	nhehx: ?, as in "Nree nhehx" "What about you?"
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(c) *Final particles*

braav-lhahx: as in "Nree xeoi braav-lhahx" "You had better go" (signifying persuasion)	leav: as in "Garmjreongv zrau xoo leav" "That would be all right!" (confidentially, it is my opinion that . . . .)
braav-lok: as in "ngror mrv seong trunq kree paaksao; ngor crih zhek braav-lok" "I don't wish to co-operate (or work) with him. I'd better resign" (signifying final choice)	lhahx: as in "Mrh xoo lhahx" "Please don't"
geav: as in "xoo geav" "that's all right, that's not bad, I have no objection"	xraiv lhahx: as in "Ngor theanq-nree-wraa xraiv lha" "I'll obey you (do as you say) then!" (signifying a surrendering promise)
	zheahx: that's all, only

VI. CONNECTIVES

There are a few connectives employed for introducing dependent clauses:

geijriinv(v): since	tengzraarx nree gornq saai bee jrann theanq" "I won't tell you in case you (soon) broadcast it (lit. tell completely) to all people"
darnqxxraarx, tengxxraarx: in case (something happens a moment later) as in "Ngor mrv wraa bee nree zhiv,	

VII. FAMILIAR PHRASES WITH MODIFIED TONES

braighaa/hriox: Hard luck! Crumbs!	daarsearcraahv: to lose one's fiancé through his death
chicheazynv: constantly turning round, unsteady	daar sheongfhayx: to do the acrobatic stunt of kicking in the air
daarmhaahx-shaanqx: giving birth to twins	

diu jhinngwhayx: to be starved from cigarettes or opium	shaamm-zhiih-wrayv: (lit. three mast boat) a widow
gwae-bhat-ghaawx: extremely unsociable	shihmrowdraajreongv: putting on airs
gwaemrhzhiihx: no wonder, naturally, who doesn't know that!	xhaw-zry trawv: to watch very closely, jealously
gwaemrowgwaejreongv: putting on an ugly expression, making a funny face	xheoyx gam crow, bhaahx gam bai: very noisy, very rowdy
mhaah-phowx: to share a bed	xram-ghaah-whannx: May your whole family perish of a plague
mh gwaai-dhak lhahx: No wonder!	zaa-gaarxjix: pretend, make believe
ngraangv-dau-ngraangv: equally stubborn or equally matched	ziu braanv, ziu jreongv: do something ac- cording to a previous example or model
saar fhaahcheonqx: to play at quarrelling, said of husband and wife or lovers	ziu braanv zyr wuurn: pay back with same coin
saar mraarcrinndhowx: to make a show of one's efforts	zrou jreongv gea-zhea = only for show