

Cantonese (Revision)

On page 59 of the *Handbook*, under "Vowels," the word 'to whittle' should be transcribed with mid tone, viz. [soek˧].

Three words in the Vowel list on page 59 demonstrate variation in their pronunciation: [sεŋ˥] 'sound', [soεŋ˥] 'hurt', and [fɔŋ˥] 'square' can either end with a velar or alveolar nasal ([sən˥], [soen˥], [fən˥]) in the speech of some educated young adult speakers. This is a sound change in progress from the historical velar nasal to the innovative alveolar. Currently, both forms exist in the language, in free variation for many speakers. The velar nasal ending is retained in the speech of many young adult speakers and the majority of older speakers. Both versions are represented here, although for this speaker the alveolar choice is primary.

Reference

ZEE, E. (1999). Change and variation in the syllable-initial and syllable-final consonants in Hong Kong Cantonese. *Journal of Chinese Linguistics* 27(1), 120-167.