

Week 1

#54 'Kongish' speaks to hearts of Hong Kongers

Skills/ Objectives: Reading

PART 1: Before you read...

Preparatory questions

1. How do you define “Kongish”?

Vocabulary

1. missive (noun): a long official and formal letter
2. chronicle (verb): to make a record of something
3. unintelligible (adjective): not being able to be understood by somebody
4. purported (adjective): guesses or assumptions
5. lingua franca (noun): a language being used between speakers who speak a different language

PART 2: Article

This article discusses the significance of Kongish in Hong Kong society and Hong Kong people’s English standard?

'Kongish' speaks to hearts of Hong Kongers (click the read the article)

<https://www.straitstimes.com/asia/kongish-speaks-to-hearts-of-hong-kongers>

(Source: The Strait Times)

PART 3: Let’s discuss

1. Do you agree that Hong Kong people’s English standard is falling? Why or why not?
2. What are the functions of language? Do you think “Kongish” is a language?

PART 4: Learn further

1. **Arrest the undeniable decline in English standards in Hong Kong**

The SCMP editor discusses the English standard of Hong Kong people.

<https://www.scmp.com/comment/insight-opinion/article/1643231/arrest-undeniable-decline-english-standards-hong-kong>

2. **Are English standards really falling in Hong Kong? Don't believe all you read**

Professor Andrew Sewell discusses the validity of falling English standard in Hong Kong.

<https://www.scmp.com/comment/insight-opinion/article/1865488/are-english-standards-really-falling-hong-kong-dont-believe>