

UOW College Hong Kong / Community College of City University
Student English Enhancement Unit (SEE U)
Daily English Practice

Week 7

#85 American Fascination with K-pop

Skills/ Objectives: To train students' reading, speaking, listening and writing skills

PART 1: Before you read...

Preparatory questions

1. Do you like K-pop?
2. How much Korean language or culture do you have to have for you to enjoy K-pop?
Or do you find it irrelevant?
3. If you do not like K-pop, what do you think makes other people like it so much?
4. What do you think about K-pop that Americans like so much?

Vocabulary

1. Foothold (noun): a strong first position from which further progress can be made
2. Choreography (noun): the skill of combining movements into dances to be performed
3. Precision (noun): the quality of being exact
4. Adherent (noun): faithful supporter
5. Hysterical (adjective): unable to control your feelings or behaviour because you are extremely excited

Answer(s) to the relevant questions above will be provided in the next exercise.

PART 2: Article for Reading

America has finally caught on to the Korean wave.

Two Theories on How K-Pop Made It to No. 1 in America *(Click the link to read the article)*

<https://www.newyorker.com/culture/cultural-comment/two-theories-on-how-k-pop-made-it-to-no-1-in-america>

PART 3: Speaking Skills

Say the word "choreography": <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uWfVUf5Hqcw>

Note that it has a /k/ sound for "ch-." The same goes for words like "chemistry" and "chemotherapy."

PART 4: Listening Skills

1. Emma Stone is Obsessed with K-Pop

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ycfXhXw0fco> (4:25 minutes)

Emma Stone has a new obsession, that being K-pop, which she says is “beyond excellent.... It’s the best thing you’ve ever seen... very addictive.”

2. K-Pop Idols Speaking English

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GXS8vo51Fmk> (3:03 minutes)

Here is how perhaps some of your favourite idols speak English—and with that, how they reach out straight to American audience.

PART 5: Writing Practice

Write a short response to the following question:

Describe an aspect of K-pop that you like most.

Send your writing to: see.u@cccu.edu.hk.

Our SEE U teachers are always ready to give feedback.