

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

Week 3

#112 Transsexuals in Hong Kong

Skills/ Objectives: Reading, Listening and Writing Skills

PART 1: Before you read...

Preparatory questions

Qt 1: Are you aware that some people need to change their gender through medical operation because they are not born with the “right” gender?

Qt 2: Have you heard of Jin Xing? A very popular TV hostess and famous ballerina, she is the first person known to the public to have undergone a transgender operation in China.

Qt 3: Do you have any prejudice against transgender people? Can you treat them just like ordinary people?

The answers to relevant questions in the preceding set of exercises (The first registered ethnic minority social worker in Hong Kong) are as follows:

Qt 2: Jeffrey Andrews experienced an identity crisis because some of his Indian friends didn't think he was Indian enough and his Chinese friends he played football with didn't think he was Chinese. This made him struggle to understand who he was.

Qt 3: Jeffrey Andrews received a commendation in 2016 for his contribution towards racial harmony in Hong Kong. He is the first registered ethnic minority social worker in Hong Kong and has been serving local ethnic minorities and refugees for a decade.

Vocabulary

1. transgender (adjective): used to describe people feeling they are not the same as the gender they are born with or people whose sexual orientation does not fit under either the male or female categories.
2. transsexual (noun): a person feeling he/she should not belong to the gender he/she was born with; or a person who has changed his/her gender through medical operation.
3. prodigy (noun): a born talent often noticeable since young age.
4. prima ballerina (noun): the most important ballerina in a show.
5. precocious (adjective): showing development earlier than the person's age.

6. troupe (noun): a group of performers such as singers or dancers who work and travel together.
7. veer (verb): change direction.
8. relent (verb): to act in a less severe way towards someone.
9. virtuoso (noun): a person who is extremely skilled at something, especially at playing an instrument or performing.
10. astounding (adjective): shocking.
11. fraught (adjective): full of unpleasant things like problems or dangers.
12. adamant (adjective): very firm in stance.
13. fledgling (noun): a young bird that has grown feathers and is learning to fly.
14. chic (adjective): stylish and fashionable.
15. larger-than-life (adjective): attracting a lot of attention because the person is more interesting and exciting than other people.
16. counterpoint (noun): the combination of two or more different tunes played at the same time.
17. unruffled (adjective): calm despite a difficult situation.
18. banter (noun): conversation that is for fun.
19. berate (verb): to scold with angry words.
20. biopic (noun): a film about the life of a real person.
21. emphatically (adverb): to do something in a very determined way.
22. iconoclast (noun): a person who strongly opposes traditional beliefs.

PART 2: Article for Reading

In the following article posted in the SCMP web-site, you will read about a famous movie star who is a transgender woman.

Meet the Oprah of China, Who Happens to Be Transgender

<https://www.hollywoodreporter.com/features/meet-oprah-china-who-happens-be-transgender-942750>

PART 3: Listening Comprehension

Listen to the following short video clip to learn more about this interesting topic while practicing your listening skills at the same time:

TRANSEXUAL HONG KONG

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h8_OcJtXJUY

PART 4: Writing Practice

Do you know how to use the word “loom”?

If an unpleasant thing looms, its appearance is drawing near and growing large and more frightening. For example, you can say:

The threat of war between the two countries is looming on the horizon.

As the semester is coming to an end, students feel their final examinations looming.

Can you make one sentence with the word “loom”? Send your writing to:
see.u@cccu.edu.hk. Remember! Our **SEE U** teachers are always ready to give you feedback.