

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

Week 2

#160 Five Child Prodigies: Fu Ming Xia

Skills/ Objectives: Reading, Listening and Writing Skills

PART 1: Before you read...

Preparatory questions

Qt 1: Do you watch the Olympic Games?

Qt 2: Since its first delegate to the Olympic Games in 1952, China has won numerous medals. How many Chinese athletes can you name?

Qt 3: For an athlete of national importance, both selection and training have to start early. How much do you know about the hard work involved?

Vocabulary

- exhaustion (noun): the state of being extremely tired.
- agile (adjective): able to move your body quickly and easily.
- debut (noun): the occasion when someone performs or presents something to the public for the first time.
- mettle (noun): ability and determination when competing or doing something difficult.

PART 2: Article for Reading

Never mind who she was married to after her retirement from professional sports. That is not a matter concerning us here. Fu Ming Xia alone is legend stuff. Read the following *Time* magazine article about her:

Fu Mingxia

<http://content.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,53960,00.html>

PART 3: Listening Comprehension

Little Fu Ming Xia has caught western media's attention. Aged 11 in year 1990, Fu started out and the world of diving took notice:

Fu Mingxia Goodwill Games commercial (1994)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jpwDG8KoINE>

PART 4: Writing Practice

In the *Time* magazine article posted in Part 1 Fu Ming Xia was quoted as saying:

"I'm old and a little fat now," jokes the 22-year-old. "I'm yesterday's news."

Here is an outstanding athlete at her most modest. At age 22, Fu was far from being what she described herself: “old,” “fat,” and “yesterday’s news.” In fact, she was young, agile, and everybody’s favourite.

“Yesterday’s news” means something everybody already knows about and feel no longer interested in.

Can you write a sentence of your own using the expression “yesterday’s news”? What do you personally consider as such? Send your writing to: see.u@cccu.edu.hk. Remember! Our **SEE U** teachers are always ready to give you feedback.