

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

Week 6

#176 Five prestigious awards: The Nobel Prize

Skills/ Objectives: Reading, Listening and Writing Skills

PART 1: Before you read...

Preparatory questions

Qt 1: In what field do you find yourself most distinguishable?

Qt 2: Have you ever won an award?

Qt 3: Have you ever dreamt one day you might win a Nobel Prize?

Qt 4: Are you excited about who has won the Nobel Prize this year?

Vocabulary

- testament (noun): a will that someone makes, saying what should be done with their money and property after they die.
- fortune (noun): a large amount of money, goods, property, etc.
- laureate (noun): a person who has been given a very high honor because of their ability in a subject of study.
- posthumous (adjective): happening after a person's death.
- Stockholm (noun): the capital city of Sweden.

PART 2: Article for Reading

Since 1901 the Nobel Prize, named after its founder Alfred Nobel, has recognized arguably some of the most distinguished minds in the world. Prizes are awarded in chemistry, physics, literature, medicine, economics and peace:

Nobel Prize facts

<https://www.nobelprize.org/prizes/facts/nobel-prize-facts/>

PART 3: Listening Comprehension

The awarding of the Nobel Prize is without its controversy. The controversy stems from its very first start, with the initial selection process:

Do the Nobel Prizes Still Make Sense in the 21st Century?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z1jurgfMwMM>

PART 4: Writing Practice

According to “Nobel Prize Facts,” two Nobel Laureates are known to have declined the prize awarded to them:

Jean-Paul Sartre, awarded the 1964 Nobel Prize in Literature, declined the prize because he had consistently declined all official honors.

Le Duc Tho, awarded the 1973 Nobel Peace Prize jointly with US Secretary of State Henry Kissinger. They were awarded the Prize for negotiating the Vietnam peace accord. Le Duc Tho said that he was not in a position to accept the Nobel Peace Prize, citing the situation in Vietnam as his reason.

Who were these two people? Who else in their right mind would turn down the Nobel Prize like they did? Research Jean-Paul Sartre and Le Duc Tho a little. Write briefly about how you feel about their decisions. Send your writing to: **see.u@cccu.edu.hk**. Remember! Our **SEE U** teachers are always ready to give you feedback.