

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

Week 10

#200 Nobel Prize winner – Mo Yan (莫言)

Skills/ Objectives: Reading, Listening and Writing Skills

PART 1: Before you read...

Preparatory questions

- Have you heard of the winner of Nobel Prize in Literature 2012 Mo Yan?
- Do you know what Mo Yan was strong for in writing?
- Did you know he was a French by nationality at the time of receiving the Nobel Prize?

Vocabulary

- Prolific (adj): producing a large number of something
- hallucinatory (adj): having untrue image of something
- novella (n): a short novel
- oeuvre (n): the complete collection of an artist's works
- acclaimed (adj): openly praised
- pirated (adj): illegally copied

PART 2: Article for Reading

Now read the article posted at the following web-site to learn more about Mo Yan:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/entertainment-arts-19907762>
Chinese author Mo Yan wins Nobel Prize for Literature

PART 3: Listening Comprehension

Listen to the following videos posted on YouTube to practise your listening skills and learn more about the topic:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-OZm7bXFGE>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=45wL7PrcO5Q&feature=youtu.be>

PART 4: Writing Practice

Do you know how to use “the former” and “the latter”. These are very convenient substitutes for referring to, respectively, the first and the last items in a list. For example, there are four people involved in the incident, namely, a policeman, a postman, a hawker and a girl. When you are talking about this string of people, the former is “the policeman” and the latter is “the girl”. Actually, you find an example of the use of “the latter” in the article as follows. Did you notice it?

Mo's other acclaimed works include Republic of Wine, Life And Death Are Wearing Me Out and Big Breasts and Wide Hips. The latter book caused controversy when it was published in 1995 for its sexual content

Can you think of a sentence or maybe a short paragraph in which you can engage the use of these two expressions? **Send your writing to:** see.u@cccu.edu.hk. Remember! Our SEE U teachers are always ready to give you feedback.