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Hong Kong Xu Bing

徐冰在香港

Xu Bing in Hong Kong

英文方塊字書法

Square Word Calligraphy

卷

Exercise

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Book

前言 Foreword

90年代初到美國生活的經歷是我創作英文方塊字的契機。紮根於中國，當時面對一個全新的英語環境，我就像是生活在兩個文化地帶之間，隨之而來的衝突感啟發了我將中文、英文這兩種截然不同的書寫體系放在一起。英文方塊字應運而生，它結合了中國的書法藝術與英文的字母系統，成為一種新的書法形式。

2024年3月，文化體育及旅遊局委任我為香港「文化推廣大使」，在首個籌劃的藝術項目，我將英文方塊字帶到香港這個中西合璧的地方，加入了一些香港文化獨有的元素，以看似中文的英文書法寫出港式英語，使它顯得更有趣味。面對英文方塊字，你也許感覺似曾相識，也許感到新奇。不論如何，希望你能從中發掘感興趣的地方，以新的思維去探索不同事物。

My experience living in the United States in the early 1990s was the catalyst for creating Square Word Calligraphy. Rooted in China and immersed in a new English environment, I found myself navigating two distinct cultural realms. This sense of conflict inspired me to blend the two writing systems of Chinese and English. Thus, Square Word Calligraphy was born, merging the art of Chinese calligraphy with the English alphabet to create a unique form of writing.

In March 2024, the Culture, Sports and Tourism Bureau appointed me as Hong Kong's Ambassador for Cultural Promotion. For my inaugural art project, I introduced Square Word Calligraphy to Hong Kong, a place where East meets West, infusing it with elements of local culture. I employed a style resembling Chinese calligraphy to write Hong Kong English, creating a playful twist. As you engage with the Square Words, you may feel a sense of familiarity or find them intriguing. Regardless, I hope you discover aspects that resonate with you and explore new perspectives.

徐冰 Xu Bing

日常生活 Daily Life

外來語

世界各地自古以來都有從不同語言借來的辭彙，這些辭彙一般稱為「外來詞」。香港是中西文化交匯的城市，也是全球最國際化的都市之一，我們的日常生活中亦有不少獨特的粵英混合外來詞。

Loanwords

Throughout history, various regions around the world have adopted vocabulary from other languages, commonly known as “loanwords”. Living in Hong Kong, a city where Eastern and Western cultures converge and one of the most international cities in the world, we encounter numerous unique loanwords in our daily lives.



1. Bus
2. Ball
3. Film
4. Lift
5. Cream
6. Store
7. Toast
8. Cherry

日常生活 Daily Life

港式英語

中英夾雜是香港語言特色之一，這種習慣在生活中潛移默化，更衍生了不少「港式英語」。可不要小看它們！某些辭彙已被正式納入英語詞典，當中包括了語音轉寫的音譯和逐字翻譯的意譯，你能認出來嗎？

Konglish

Code-switching between Chinese and English is a notable linguistic feature of Hong Kong. This practice subtly shapes our daily lives and has given rise to many terms in “Hong Kong English”. These words are more significant than they may seem! Some have been formally included in English dictionaries, encompassing both transliteration and literal translation. Can you recognise them?



- 1. Yum Cha
- 2. Milk Tea
- 3. People Mountain
People Sea

日常生活 Daily Life

問候語

俗語有云：「禮多人不怪」，與人見面時打招呼、問好是基本禮儀，這些約定俗成、外國人也熟知的中式英文問候語，一定要先學好！

Greetings

There is an old Chinese saying: “Nobody will find fault with extra courtesy”. Greeting someone and asking how they are doing is fundamental etiquette. Let’s prepare ourselves with these conventional Chinese–English greeting phrases, which are widely recognised even by foreigners!



1. Long Time No See
2. Kung Hei Fat Choy

香港文化 Hong Kong Culture

非物質文化遺產(一)

非物質文化遺產(非遺)對保存香港的歷史文化起了重大的作用，不但承傳了過去的傳統和習俗，更能增強我們的身份認同感，提升社會的凝聚力。納入香港非遺清單的項目中，你又認識多少呢？

Intangible Cultural Heritage I

Intangible cultural heritage plays a significant role in preserving Hong Kong's historical culture. It not only transmits past traditions and customs, but also enhances our sense of identity and strengthens social cohesion. Among the items on Hong Kong's intangible heritage list, how many are you familiar with?



1. Cheongsam
2. Mahjong
3. Kung Fu
4. Dit Da
5. Lion Dance

香港文化 Hong Kong Culture

非物質文化遺產(二)

飲食文化是非遺中重要的一環，身為「美食天堂」的香港，有不少本地食品和食具製作技藝也被列入非遺清單，當中有與應節食品、街頭小吃和保健飲品等相關的項目，承載了獨特的民間智慧及傳統文化。

Intangible Cultural Heritage II

Food culture is an essential component of intangible cultural heritage. As a “food paradise”, Hong Kong boasts a variety of local dishes and culinary craftsmanship that have been included on the intangible heritage list. These include festival delicacies, street snacks and health drinks, all of which embody distinctive folk wisdom and traditional culture.



1. Dim Sum
2. Egg Tart
3. Moon Cake
4. Herbal Tea

香港文化 Hong Kong Culture

廣東口語

廣東話的口語非常地道、通俗生動，有些我們常掛在嘴邊，會聽會說卻不懂如何書寫，甚至大部份都是寫同音字當作正字。其實不少廣東話用字是來自古漢語，想知道以下的是甚麼口語，你可先要在英文方塊字中找出字的讀音，再把它們轉換過來。考考你，你又懂得它們的正確寫法嗎？

Cantonese Dialect

Spoken Cantonese is authentic, colloquial and vivid. There are phrases that we frequently hear and use, yet we often struggle to write them correctly, as many people substitute homophones for the proper characters. In fact, many Cantonese terms have roots in ancient Chinese. If you are interested in learning these colloquial terms, you can start by finding the pronunciation of the characters in the Square Words and then converting them. Here's the challenge: do you know how to write them correctly?



1. San Ka La
2. Quick Leg
Karc Lark

人生智慧

Wisdom of Life

諺語

充滿睿智的民間諺語流傳至今，貫通中西，把這些中英對照的人生座右銘都寫一遍，帶給你滿滿的正能量！

Proverbs

Wise folk proverbs have been passed down through generations, bridging the East and West. Join us in writing these bilingual life mottos to fill yourself with positive energy!



1. No pain no gain
2. Good medicine tastes bitter

3.		
		
		
		

3. Failure is the mother of success

文字正解 Answer Key

【外來語 Loanwords】

1. Bus 巴士 (baa¹ si²) (公共汽車)
2. Ball 波 (bo¹) (球)
3. Film 菲林 (fei¹ lam²) (膠卷)
4. Lift 𨮒 (lip¹) (升降機)
5. Cream 忌廉 (gei⁶ lim¹) (奶油)
6. Store 士多 (si⁶ do¹) (雜貨店)
7. Toast 多士 (do¹ si⁶) (烤麵包片)
8. Cherry 車厘子 (ce¹ lei⁴ zi²) (櫻桃)

【港式英語 Kongish】

1. Yum Cha 飲茶 (音譯 Transliteration)
「Yum Cha (飲茶)」是指一種主要包括飲茶及吃點心的粵式飲食，在香港及廣東一帶非常流行。隨著「Yum Cha」在西方國家的盛行，更被正式收入《牛津英語詞典》。
“Yum cha” refers to a Cantonese dining tradition that primarily involves drinking tea and eating dim sum. It is especially popular in Hong Kong and the Guangdong region. As “yum cha” has gained popularity in Western countries, the term has even been officially included in the Oxford English Dictionary.
2. Milk Tea 奶茶 (意譯 Literal translation)
奶茶是香港的代表性飲品，由英式奶茶逐漸演變而成。在英文中奶茶的正確語法應為「tea with milk」，2016年《牛津英語詞典》納入「milk tea」，更註明這詞尤指「源自香港的奶茶」。
Milk tea is a signature beverage of Hong Kong, having gradually evolved from English-style milk tea. While the standard English expression for milk tea is “tea with milk”, the phrase “milk tea” was officially included in the Oxford English Dictionary in 2016, particularly noting that it refers to “a drink originating in Hong Kong”.
3. People Mountain People Sea 人山人海
「People Mountain People Sea」是典型的港式英語例子，以英文逐字翻譯「人山人海」，意指聚集的人非常多，網上辭典Urban Dictionary已收錄此片語。

“People Mountain People Sea” is a typical example of Hong Kong English, translated literally from the Chinese phrase “人山人海”, which describes a large crowd of people. The phrase has been included in the online dictionary Urban Dictionary.

【問候語 Greetings】

1. Long Time No See 很久不見
常見的港式英語問候語，常用於當與某人長時間沒有見面後重新相遇時的場景。
This is a common greeting in Hong Kong English, often used when reuniting with someone after a long time apart.
2. Kung Hei Fat Choy 恭喜發財
農曆新年期間見面時用的祝福語，因約定俗成，成為外國人亦熟知的新年賀詞。
This is a common greeting used during the Chinese New Year, meaning “wishing you prosperity”. It has become well-known even among foreigners.

【非物質文化遺產(一) Intangible Cultural Heritage I】

1. Cheongsam 長衫
長衫是中式服裝之一，但英譯Cheongsam專指女性長衫，早於1950年代已收錄在《牛津英語詞典》中。女裝長衫在香港普及後，其縫製技術受到東西方服裝設計影響，逐漸孕育出獨特的風格。
Cheongsam, meaning “long gown”, is a Chinese style of dress specifically refers to a long, close-fitting women’s dress, which was included in the Oxford English Dictionary as early as the 1950s. After women’s cheongsam became widespread in Hong Kong, its design incorporated both Eastern and Western sewing techniques, contributing to its distinct appearance.
2. Mahjong 麻雀
麻雀是一種源自中國的棋牌類遊戲。過去麻雀牌都是人手雕刻，油麻地、廣東道等曾是麻雀牌雕刻店的主要集中地。
Mahjong is a tile-based game that originated in China. In the past, mahjong tiles were hand-carved. In Hong Kong, Yau Ma Tei and Canton Road were major centres for mahjong tile-carving shops.

3. Kung Fu 功夫

功夫意指中國傳統武術，形態各異的拳種和門派在香港持續發展，太極拳、洪拳、詠春拳等亦已納入香港非遺清單。

Kung Fu refers to traditional Chinese martial arts. In Hong Kong, various styles and schools of Kung Fu have developed, including Tai Chi, Hung Gar and Wing Chun. These forms have been included in Hong Kong's intangible cultural heritage list.

4. Dit Da 跌打

跌打是一個傳統醫療項目，主治扭傷、跌傷、撞傷和碰傷，跌打醫館分佈於香港各區。

Dit Da (bone setting) is a traditional medical practice that specialises in treating sprains, bruises and other injuries resulting from falls or other impacts. Dit Da clinics are found in various districts of Hong Kong.

5. Lion Dance 舞獅

舞獅活動在香港歷史悠久，香港的醒獅以南獅為主，發展出不同的造型、舞獅方式及採青儀式，各具姿彩。

Lion dance performances have a long history in Hong Kong, with Southern lions being the primary style practised. Over the years, various designs, movements and auspicious practices have been developed, each showcasing spectacular characteristics.

【非物質文化遺產(二) Intangible Cultural Heritage II】

1. Dim Sum 點心

專指廣式點心，主要分為鹹點、甜點及包類等。廣州式茶樓早期主要集中於中、上環一帶。

This term specifically refers to Cantonese dim sum, which mainly includes salty dim sum, sweet dim sum, and bun items. In the early years, Cantonese-style tea houses were concentrated in the Central and Sheung Wan areas of Hong Kong.

2. Egg Tart 蛋撻

蛋撻是一種主要以蛋皮及蛋漿製成的食品，據說是從外國的果撻演變而成，於1940年代傳入香港，初時只在高級西餐廳供應，於1950年代始在香港流行，是著名的香港地道小食。

Egg tarts are a type of pastry filled with egg custard, believed to have derived from Western fruit tarts. They were introduced to Hong Kong in the 1940s, initially served only in high-end Western restaurants. However, they became popular in the 1950s and have since become a well-known local snack in Hong Kong.

3. Moon Cake 月餅

月餅為中秋節的傳統節慶食物及禮品，其製作過程包括製蓮蓉、搓餅皮、煮糖漿、製餡料、壓模和烘焙等步驟。

Moon cakes are the traditional festive food and gift for the Mid-Autumn Festival. The production process involves making lotus seed paste, kneading the dough, cooking the syrup, preparing the filling, pressing the moulds, and baking the cakes.

4. Herbal Tea 涼茶

涼茶是流行於嶺南地區的一種飲料，以特定的中草藥烹煮而成，在香港已有百餘年歷史，現時仍是日常生活中一種功能性飲品。

Herbal tea is a popular drink in the South China region, made by brewing specific Chinese herbs. With a history of over 100 years in Hong Kong, it remains a functional beverage in daily life today.

【廣東口語 Cantonese Dialect】

1. San Ka La 山旯沓

指地方偏遠、不易到達

This term refers to places that are remote and difficult to access.

2. Quick Leg Karc Lark 𩶛碟緋嘞

指林林總總、鎖碎的東西

This term refers to all kinds of miscellaneous and fragmented items.

【諺語 Proverbs】

1. No pain no gain 一分耕耘一分收穫

想要得到多少的成果，必須付出多少的努力。

The results you want to achieve are directly proportional to the effort you invest. The more effort you put in, the greater the outcomes you can expect.

2. Good medicine tastes bitter 苦口良藥

能治病的藥往往味苦難吃。比喻衷心的勸告，聽起來覺得不舒服，但對改正錯誤大有益處。

Medicinal remedies that can cure ailments often have a bitter taste. This serves as a metaphor for heartfelt advice that, while it may sound unpleasant, can be very beneficial for correcting mistakes.

3. Failure is the mother of success

失敗乃成功之母

邁向成功的過程中，少不免會遇到許多挫折和失敗。

On the path to success, one will inevitably encounter many setbacks and failures. These experiences are crucial for growth and learning, ultimately leading to success.

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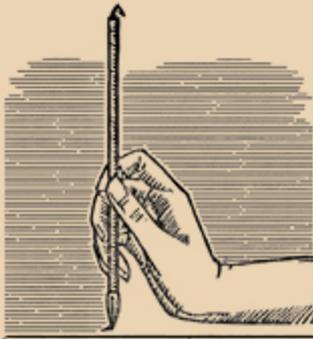
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A B C D E F G H I J K L M

N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

a b c d e f g h i j k l m

n o p q r s t u v w x y z

A B C D E F G H I J K L M

N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

a b c d e f g h i j k l m

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