



Glossary

A Report on Hong Kong's Cage Homes

packed in · to 擠進 **phrase**

to have many things or people put tightly together into a small space

There were ten people packed into the back of the taxi.

pri · va · cy 隱私 **noun** *challenging

not being looked at or watched by other people

There would be no privacy living in a house made entirely of glass.

hy · giene 衛生 **noun**

practices used to keep good health and free from disease

No attention had been paid to hygiene and there was dirt all over the kitchen.

slum 貧民窟 **noun**

an area where thousands of poor people live very close together

The charity workers visited the slum every day to bring food to the poor people.

Pricey Property in Hong Kong

af·ford·a·ble 負擔得起的 **adjective**

not expensive; easily purchased

They sell hamburgers for only \$10? That's very affordable!

com·mer·cial 商業的; 商務的 **adjective** *challenging

Of or having to do with a business; related to the means and ends of commerce

The main commercial district in town has a hair salon, restaurants, a cinema, and supermarkets.

de·vel·op·ment 發展 **noun**

improvement or growth; reaching better levels of organisation

The development of a new immigration policy will be crucial to the future of the country.

In·creas·ingly 漸增地; 越來越多地 **adverb** *challenging

more and more; to a greater extent

The teacher is increasingly displeased with our behaviour in the classroom.



in-vest-ment 投資 **noun**

an expense of money or effort expected to produce benefits or a profit for the investor later

Susie made a huge investment in the new apartment blocks in her neighbourhood.

stag-ger-ing 巨大的; 難以相信的 **adjective** * **challenging**

shocking or astonishing

That house costs a staggering amount of money.

Living in a Foreign City – What’s It Like?

ac-cess 接觸 **noun**

a way or means of getting something

As food banks are on the outskirts of major cities, the residents have difficulty gaining access to them.

con-sist-ent-ly 一貫地 **adverb**

in a reliable, constant, regular fashion

Jamie consistently arrived at work on time.

ex-ten-sive 廣泛的; 大規模的 **adjective** * **challenging**

that which extends widely; large in reach or area

The government will begin an extensive AIDS awareness program OR The extensive IFC complex spans a large area on the Central waterfront.

in-nate 與生俱來的; 天生的 **adjective** * **challenging**

native to

Nathan has an innate sense of direction. He almost never gets lost!

slum 貧民窟 **noun** * **challenging**

a poor section of a city usually consisting of shanties (unstable houses) and lacking in basic services like garbage removal, clean water, and police

Many poor city dwellers live in dangerous slums that sit atop Rio de Janeiro’s many hills.

sur-vey 問卷調查 **noun**

a list of questions designed to find out more information about someone or something

Our local supermarket conducted a survey to find out what fruits shoppers want in the store.



Live Scorpions Face Eviction

torn down 拆毀 **phrase**

something, usually a building, is brought down to the ground

They couldn't believe the school was going to be torn down! Where would the new school be built?

Lit · er · al · ly 實在地 **adverb**

exactly so; often informally used to express strong feelings about something

Let me tell you, I literally couldn't breathe for a whole ten minutes! It's true!

prof · it · a · ble 有贏利的 **adjective**

a business that is making money

The bookstore had to close down as it was no longer profitable, thanks to the Kindle and e-books.

com · pen · sa · tion 補償; 賠償 **noun * challenging**

something, usually money, given to someone in place of something they have lost

She was very angry when she read that the compensation they would give her for losing her leg was about HK\$50 a year.



British People are Obsessed with their Pets

the cost is worth it 物有所值 **phrase**

meaning you should probably spend that amount of money to get it

Yes, it is an expensive computer – but the cost is worth it because it is such a great machine.

tak · ing it to ex · tremes 走至極端 **phrase * challenging**

pushing something to a new level, usually used to exaggerate something

The new fashion is for long hair but she is taking it to extremes having hair down to her ankles.

ex · clu · sive · ly 專門地 **adverb**

so that others are left out

The shop exclusively sells jeans.

pri · or · i · ties 優先重點 **noun [plural]**

things that are regarded as more important than others

My priorities in life are to study hard, work hard, and play hard.



In Paris, It's a Dog's Life

ac-ces-so-ry 附件, 配件 **noun (fashion)**

a small portable or wearable object that complements your appearance, such as a tote or a scarf
Purple purses are the must-have accessory this fall!

ar-bi-tra-ry 隨心所欲的, 武斷的 **adjective** * **challenging**

that which has no basis in reason or objectivity
I don't know why the store closed early last night. It seems like a random, arbitrary decision to me.

di-l-i-gently 勤勉地; 勤奮地 **adverb** * **challenging**

done with care and attention; thoroughly
If you wish to succeed in this course, you must do your readings diligently each night.

fea-si-bi-li-ty 可行性 **noun** * **challenging**

the extent to which something is possible or practical; the degree to which something may be enacted
I'm afraid we cannot invest in your company until you've demonstrated the feasibility of your business plan, sir.

leash 狗皮帶, 狗鏈 **noun**

a cord of moderate length secured around a dog's neck to prevent it from getting too far from its owner
Whenever I walk my dog Spots, I make sure to keep him on a leash so he doesn't chase cars!

tra-di-tion 傳統 **noun**

a long-honoured practice or way of doing something
In my village, we have a tradition of dancing in the streets at midnight on New Year's.

Parading Your Pet in Hong Kong

a-ban-doned 被放棄的; 被遺棄的 **adjective**

left alone; deserted and forgotten
Last week, I adopted an abandoned kitten I found in an alley near my house.

ben-e-fits 利益, 好處 **noun**

positive, useful, or helpful outcomes of a situation or action
Getting enough fresh air and exercise each day has important benefits for your health and happiness.



frol-ic 歡樂; 嬉戲 **verb** * **challenging**

to prance about gleefully

Tomorrow I shall frolic in a field of fancy flowers.

ir-re-place-a-ble 不能調換的 **adjective** * **challenging**

that which cannot be replaced

The bicycle my grandfather gave me before he passed away is simply irreplaceable.

lob-by 遊說; 施加壓力 **verb**

to apply pressure to achieve a public policy end

We must lobby Congress to reform our import tax laws!

mar-gin-al-ise 邊緣化; 排斥 **verb** * **challenging**

to cast aside or treat as unimportant

The lack of sustainable public transit facilities in and around slums further marginalises the inhabitants.



'Twilight' – Stephanie Meyer

phe · nom · e · non 現象 **noun** * **challenging**

a remarkable person, thing, or event

The Amazon rainforest is an incredible natural phenomenon.

out · sid · er 外人; 局外人 **noun**

a person who does not belong to a particular group, and who is set apart from others

She was quiet and shy and this made her into a bit of an outsider at school.

clas · sic 最優秀的, 第一流的 **noun**

a work of art that is recognised as being very valuable and important

'Jane Eyre' is a very famous classic novel written by Charlotte Bronte.

se · quels 續集, 續篇 **noun [plural]**

a book or film that continues the story started in earlier works

The sequels to the original 'Harry Potter' were just as successful as the first book.



Still Single at 40? You aren't Alone...

mar · ry up verb * **challenging**

to marry someone who is richer than you are, or of a higher social class

Women around the world have always been encouraged to marry up if they possibly can.

role 角色 **noun**

the part someone plays, often referring to a person in a play or movie

She accepted the role of peacekeeper in their relationship and always solved the arguments.

tra · di · tion · al · ly 角色 **adverb**

something that normally is done, used or found

Traditionally, women are seen as weaker than men – but now they are proving this to be wrong.

pop · u · lar · i · ty 普及, 流行 **noun**

state of being very popular, or supported by many people

Even today, the popularity of Nelson Mandela cannot be doubted as everybody adores him.

Forbidden Love

beguile 欺騙 **verb** * **challenging**

to confuse or trick; to deceive

The troll's clever riddles beguiled our troubled hero.

intriguing **adjective** 引起興趣的 * **challenging**

interesting; that which provokes questions, thought, and curiosity

I find her yellow polka-dot dress intriguing.

masterpiece 傑作, 名作 **noun**

the best artwork an artist has created; also, an 'excellent example' of any creation

Critics are calling the latest film a masterpiece, citing excellent cinematography and great acting.

Leonardo Da Vinci's greatest masterpiece is the Mona Lisa.

memorable 值得懷念的; 難忘的 **adjective**

that which is easily remembered

Last Christmas, our family went to New York. It was our most memorable Christmas yet!

Oedipus Rex 俄狄浦斯王 **proper noun**

(Latin) King Oedipus, a character who marries his mother in Sophocles' famous play by the same name

Oedipus Rex lived such a tragic life: I feel so bad that he married his mother!



protagonist 主角 **noun**

the main positive figure or figures of a narrative whom which the reader is encouraged to identify

The protagonists of the Harry Potter series are Harry, Ron, and Hermione.

sacrifice 犧牲 **noun**

an action that involves giving up something you want or love, usually for a greater cause

In order to pay for university, Janelle made sacrifices, like not going out to eat.

tragedy 悲劇 **noun**

a terrible or deeply bad situation

The Haitian earthquake was a true tragedy: many people have died as a result.

tragic hero 悲劇英雄 **noun**

a truly good character (usually the protagonist) in literature who suffers a terrible fate

Othello is the quintessential tragic hero.

unaware 未察覺到的 **noun**

the state of not realising or knowing something

I was unaware she didn't like me: she smiled at me all the time, so I had no idea!

ultimately 最後; 終極地 **adverb**

finally; in the end

She ultimately decided that she should do her homework before going out to play.

Intelligent Children Missing Out

stream • ing 按學生能力分組 **noun * challenging**

when school classes are divided by ability

The school used streaming to group together the smartest children and separate them from the weakest.

back • wards 落後的, 發展遲緩的 **adverb**

a person having learning difficulties [slang]

When he was young, he was a little bit backwards and didn't talk clearly. He is now one of the best students.

be • hav • iour 行為 **noun**

the way in which someone acts, particularly towards others

Since he had started hanging out with the older boys his behaviour had become terrible.



yours sin · cere · ly 親愛的 **phrase**

a formal phrase to end a letter, when you know the name of the person you are addressing

The teacher taught them that if they knew who they writing to, they must sign the letter 'yours sincerely' if it was very formal and important.

Free Newspaper Wars

pub · li · ca · tions 刊物 **noun [plural]**

books, journals or other printed words made available for public sale

She really liked reading scientific publications because she wanted to be a doctor one day.

ri · val 對手 **noun**

a person or thing competing with another for the same prize

They were playing the rival school at football that afternoon, something that had happened every year for over a century.

skim 略讀 **verb**

to read quickly without paying much attention

She had so much to read for school that she only had time to skim through the pages quickly.

join · ing the scene 加入 **phrase [from to join a/the scene]* challenging**

to become a part of something that already exists

A new radio station will soon be joining the scene in Hong Kong, hoping to get teenagers listening.

The Media and You

com·pe·ti·tion 比賽, 競賽 **noun**

an event at which one or more people compete against each other

We have a big debate competition next Friday; I hope our team wins!

cyn·i·cism 懷疑態度 **noun * challenging**

scepticism and pessimism due to a fundamental lack of faith in a situation or in other people

Her cynicism knows no bounds: she's judging the programme before she has even tried it!

font 字型, 字體 **noun * challenging**

that which dictates how letters appear; typeface

Comic Sans is an inappropriate font for a professional setting.



mon-i-tor 監視 **verb**

to keep an eye on; survey; track

Though the government no longer believes the hurricane will make landfall on our shores, we will continue to monitor this developing situation to ensure everyone's safety.

ques-tion 詢問 **verb**

to ask questions about or to voice doubts

When the politician made money off the deal he voted for, many began to question his motives.

suc-ces-sive 連續的, 相繼的; 依次的 **adjective** * **challenging**

coming one after another in succession

The two successive hurricanes that battered the city damaged many homes.



'An Ideal Husband', by Oscar Wilde

de · bates 辯論 **noun [plural]**

formal discussions about a particular topic

She enjoyed listening to the politicians' debates about visas for domestic helpers.

ad · mi · ra · ble 令人欽佩的 **adjective** * **challenging**

having many good qualities that can be admired, respected, and well-regarded

She had led an admirable life, serving the poor and needy.

fault · less 完美無缺的 **adjective**

free from error

She was faultless in her ballet exam and scored full marks.

ap · pre · ci · ate 欣賞, 感激 **verb**

to understand and see the value of something

There is no point giving her nice things as she never appreciates them.



Property Prices in Hong Kong

for · mal · ly 正式地; 正規地 **adverb**

officially; in proper terms

My friend Catherine, formally known as Lady Catherine de Bourgh, has arrived.



re · source 資源 **noun**

a supply of something that can be used to make a country or person become wealthier

Diamonds are a valuable resource in some countries.

trig · gers 觸發, 引起 **verb**

causes something to happen

Eating too much chocolate often triggers weight gain.

sup · ply-and-de · mand 供應與需求 **phrase * challenging**

the amount of a good or service available, and the desire of buyers for it – these will decide the price of something

Thanks to the laws of supply-and-demand, diamonds cost a lot of money.

Middle-Age Marriages

ac·quire 取得; 獲得 **verb * challenging**

to get or obtain

My company acquired a car for me so I could drive to and from work.

an·noy 惹惱; 使生氣 **verb**

to bother or irritate

The noise from my neighbours' frequent parties annoys me.

de·clare 宣告; 聲明 **verb * challenging**

to state or proclaim

Sam declared that the project was impossible.

fuss·y 大驚小怪的; 難以取悅的; 挑剔的 **adjective**

difficult, finicky, and particular; easily agitated

Their baby is so fussy! All he does is cry!

pro·pose 求婚[(+to)] **verb**

to ask someone to marry you

Jack proposed to Jill on top of a hill.

re·lieved 放心的 **adjective * challenging**

no longer stressed or upset

I was relieved to hear you got good marks on your exam.



Information about a British Christmas

tra · di · tion · al 傳統的 **adjective**

produced or done because this has been so for a very long time

It is traditional to hide chocolate eggs at Easter in England and children hunt for them.

Ad · vent cal · en · dars 聖誕節倒數日曆 **noun [plural]**

calendars with small numbered flaps or 'doors', one of which is opened every day from 1st December until Christmas Eve

Now, you can get chocolate Advent calendars, with a little chocolate behind each door.

left · o · vers 殘羹剩菜 **noun [plural] * challenging**

food that has been unused or uneaten after a big meal

They always gave the leftovers to the dog for a treat.

ex · tend · ed fam · i · ly 大家庭 **noun**

family including grandparents, aunts, uncles and more distant relatives

We only see our extended family once a year because we all live far apart.



A Letter to an Agony Aunt

ag · o · ny aunt 問答專欄 **noun**

a column in a newspaper offering advice to readers who write in

I wrote to an Agony Aunt to ask what she thought I should do about the bullies.

ad · dic · tion 沈溺; 上癮 **noun * challenging**

a strong desire to do or have something regularly

She had an addiction to the Internet and spent 14 hours online each day.

con · cen · trate 集中 **verb**

to focus your attention on a particular object or activity

He was so tired at school he found it hard to concentrate in the lessons.

sta · tus 情形, 狀況, 狀態 **noun**

used on Facebook and other social networking sites to describe what you are thinking or feeling

Some people will update their status twenty times a day with really uninteresting information.



Hooked Up

ac-knowl-edge 承認 **verb** * **challenging**

to give official recognition to

The Department of Education should acknowledge that standardized tests stress students out.

an-ti-so-cial 反社會的 **adjective**

that which avoids or spurns social interaction

Jeanine is so anti-social: all she does is study in her room all day.

cash in on 利用; 賺錢 **verbal phrase** * **challenging**

to reap the rewards of something; to call in a profit or benefit

The actress cashed in on her recent success in Hollywood and started her own product line.

dis-or-der 混亂, 無秩序 **noun**

an abnormal state; an affliction

Some people have depressive disorders that can make them very sad.

psy-chol-o-gist 心理學家 **noun**

a medical professional with training in human psychology but not medicine (i.e., cannot give prescriptions, versus a psychiatrist, who can)

If you are depressed, you should see a psychologist to talk about what's wrong!

sac-ro-sanct 極神聖的; 不可侵犯的 **adjective** * **challenging**

highly venerated; holy or inviolable

The space of the home is considered by many to be sacrosanct, which explains why victims of burglary often feel deeply shaken and violated by the experience.

A Safari in Africa

catch · phrases 口頭禪 **noun [plural]** * **challenging**

a well-known sentence or phrase, often associated with a particular famous person

In the UK, Bruce Forsyth is known for his catchphrase, 'Nice to see you – to see you, nice!'

en · dan · gered 快要絕種的 **adjective**

seriously at risk of extinction, i.e. being no more

The giant panda is an endangered species that is rapidly dying out.



lodge 旅舍; 山林小屋 **noun**

a place to stay

They were looking for a lodge for the night and found a beautiful old house where they could stay.

sa · fa · ri 非洲的旅行 **noun**

an expedition to look at animals in their natural homes, especially in East Africa

They had booked their safari holiday and couldn't wait to see lions and leopards.



Maids Win Residency Battle

o · ver · turned 推翻 **verb**

a decision is turned around or reversed, especially in a court of law

The decision to lock him up for murder was overturned when they found out he couldn't have killed the man.

cov · er · age 覆蓋 **noun**

how the media covers something

The coverage of the war in Afghanistan was very graphic and many viewers turned off their televisions.

bi · ased 使存偏見 **verb** * **challenging**

be against someone or something

The news reporter was clearly biased against the prime minister and said many things against him.

grant · ed 假定; 就算 **verb**

given or allowed to do something

They were granted permission to smoke only outside.



Two Year Old in China Dies after Hit and Run Incident

hit and run 不顧而去 **adjective**

an accident when a car hits somebody and then drives off not checking to see if they are okay or not

He was killed instantly in the hit and run accident.

trag · ic 悲慘的 **adjective**

causing extreme sorrow or upset

It was a tragic day when thousands died from the earthquake.



jus · ti · fy 證明...是正當的; 為...辯護 **verb**

show or prove something is right and reasonable

It is never possible to justify a man hitting a woman.

jus · tice will be done 公義將會彰顯 **phrase * challenging**

the right and just thing has been carried out as the result of a crime

The murderer was sent to prison and justice was done for the victim of his horrible crime.



Hidden Pleasures

clutch 抓住; 緊緊抓在手裡 **verb * challenging**

to hold tightly

When the airplane started to bounce around, I clutched my blanket in terror.

co·coon 緊緊包住 **verb * challenging**

to nestle; to protect or surround something in a comforting way

Though the storm was raging outside, we were happily cocooned in the warmth of our home.

end·less 無盡的; 不斷的; 長久的 **adjective**

without end; interminable

After the eighth hour in the car, the drive began to feel endless.

i·so·lat·ed (被)孤立的, (被)分離的, (被)隔離的 **adjective**

separated

The hospital isolated the man with the dangerous disease so others wouldn't catch it.

quirk·y 古怪的 **adjective * challenging**

odd or different, usually in a positive or interesting way

Our professor is rather quirky and sometimes wears rain boots on sunny days.

treas·ure 金銀財寶, 財富 **noun**

a collection of money or objects, usually hidden or protected, with great value

The pirates hid their treasure in an underwater cave.



'Lamb to the Slaughter' – Roald Dahl

whacks 重打; 猛擊 **verb** [from to whack, informal]

to hit someone or something hard

If you whack someone hard with a hammer it could kill them.

dis · traught 心煩意亂的; 極煩惱的 **adjective**

very upset about something

She was crying and distraught when she found out her son had been killed in the war.

ev · i · dence 證據 **noun**

available facts or information proving something is true

The evidence all suggested that he had killed the man so he was sent to prison for forty years.

in · trud · er 侵入者; 闖入者 **noun** * **challenging**

a person who creeps, unheard, into a building with the plan to commit a crime

She was terrified when she turned and saw the intruder sneaking into her bedroom.

Hong Kong's Maids Granted Residency

re · jec · tion 拒絕 **noun**

when something has been sent away as being inappropriate or incorrect

She received her letter of rejection from the university and was very upset she wouldn't get to go there.

grant · ed 給予, 准予 **verb** * **challenging**

given after an agreement

He was granted the right to stay in the country after many years fighting attempts to send him away.

e · con · o · my 經濟 **noun**

the wealth of a country or region

The government was very worried about the economy and they did their best to fix the problems.

rul · ing 裁決, 裁定 **noun**

a decision or announcement made by one in authority, especially made by a judge in court

The ruling was final; he was to be sent back to his home country and had to leave immediately.



Yes But...Are You Local?

cit-i-zen-ship 公民權 **noun**

a legal state indicating full membership in a country

People born in the United States have US citizenship, regardless of where their parents are from or why they were in the United States at the time of birth.

con-ten-tious 引起爭論的 **adjective** * **challenging**

controversial; likely to provoke disagreement

The president made the contentious claim that war was the best option for the country.

na-tion-al-i-ty 國籍 **noun**

(1) a term denoting historical/familial relationship with a particular nation

(2) a legal state indicating formal relationship with a country without necessarily enjoying full benefits of citizenship, e.g. voting or right of abode

Though I am not a British citizen and cannot simply move to Britain without complex paperwork, I have British nationality, complete with a British passport and British consular protection.

op-posed 反對 **adjective** * **challenging**

against

The politician clearly stated that he is opposed to public housing programmes.

res-i-den-cy 有時限的居留權 **noun**

a legal state allowing a person to stay in a given country for a defined amount of time that grants neither nationality nor citizenship

I had to obtain residency to work in India last year.

right of a-bode 居留權 **noun phrase**

a legal state permitting a person to live in a given country or territory for an unlimited amount of time that does not necessarily grant nationality or citizenship; also known as permanent residency in some English-speaking countries (e.g. United States)

After working in Hong Kong for seven years, I was finally granted right of abode.