

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

Week 9

**#95 Population crisis in China**

**Skills/ Objectives: To train students' reading, listening and writing skills**

**PART 1: Before you read...**

**Preparatory questions**

Qt 1: Do you think China has too many people and should adopt population control?

Qt 2: China has changed its one-child policy to a two-child policy in recent years. Do you think this has solved the population crisis of the country?

The answers to Qt 2 will be provided at the next set of Daily English Practice exercises.

**Vocabulary**

- *a long-standing critic (noun): a person who has been criticizing something for a long time.*
- *degenerate (verb): to go back in quality.*
- *thanks to (preposition): due to.*
- *demographic policies (noun): the policies of government to influence population growth in a country.*
- *populous (adjective): with a lot of people living in the place.*
- *tabloid (noun): a type of newspaper printed in small sheets with lots of pictures and not too many words.*
- *accelerated (adjective): quickened up in speed.*
- *replicate (verb): to repeat doing something in the same way.*
- *anticipated (adjective): expected.*

*The following is/are answer(s) to relevant question(s) in the preceding set of exercises "Chinese Dating Etiquettes":*

*Qt 1: Mr. Li, founder of the matchmaking website Zhenai says that single men tend to receive more digital "winks" the higher their salary while the number of winks women get starts to tail off after they earn more than US\$7,600 a month.*

*Qt 2: The answer is "Yes" according to Mr. Li of Zhenai. He said the more economically well off women are, the less likely they are to put up with a husband they are not happy with.*

## **PART 2: Article for Reading**

Are you aware that people have different styles of courtship in different cultures? Very often, this means what is the norm in one country may be considered unacceptable or even illegal in another. Find the following article posted by HealthGuidance for more details.

China birth numbers expected to fall to the lowest level since 2000, creating new economic and social challenges.

<https://www.scmp.com/economy/china-economy/article/2180339/china-birth-rate-expected-fall-lowest-level-2000-creating-new>

## **PART 3: Listening Comprehension**

Here is a video clip on You Tube to train your listening skills:

China's Demographic Crisis

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5lWopSn-Z4A>

BBC's video on "Is two-child policy changing China?"

<https://www.bbc.com/news/av/world-asia-china-34671371/end-of-china-s-one-child-policy-explained>

## **PART 4: Writing Practice**

Did you notice the good use of the word "following" in place of the usual word "after" in the following sentence of the main article:

"Births in 2016 rose to 17.86 million from 16.55 million in 2015 following introduction of the two-child policy."

Very often we can give a better style to our writing by employing use of alternative words instead of the very common words/expressions like "for instance" instead of "for example" and "on the ground of" rather than "because". Can you practice the use of "following" as shown in the example sentence above by writing one of your own? Another demonstration of its use is as follows:

China's economy is now improving fast, following a series of successful Five-year Plans.

Send your answer to [see.u@cccu.edu.hk](mailto:see.u@cccu.edu.hk). Remember! Our **SEE U** teachers are always ready to give you feedback.