

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

Week 1

#102 Ip Man 葉問

Skills/ Objectives: Reading, Listening and Writing Skills

PART 1: Before you read...

Preparatory questions

Qt 1: Did you know that the famous Wing Chun master Ip Man used to live in Hong Kong?

Qt 2: Are you aware that Bruce Lee was a student of Ip Man?

Vocabulary

- duel (noun): a formal fight between two persons in order to reach a decision in an argument.
- choreography (noun): The skill of organizing movements in a dance performance.
- fictitious plot (noun): invented, untrue story.
- a huge hit with audiences (noun): a very popular person or event attracting a big audience.
- proclaim (verb): to announce something officially in public.
- engross (verb): strongly attract the attention of people.
- brothel (noun): a place where men go to enjoy themselves with prostitutes.
- vigorous (adjective): strong and full of energy.
- albeit (conjunction): although.
- pivotal (adjective): central and important.
- a draw (noun): a situation in a game when both sides are not able to win or lose.

PART 2: Reading Comprehension

In the following article posted in the SCMP web-site, you will read about the interesting story of the famous Wing Chun master Ip Man:

The woman who took on Ip Man, the legendary martial artist and teacher of Bruce Lee – and 4 other classic film duels

<https://www.scmp.com/magazines/style/news-trends/article/2178820/woman-who-took-ip-man-legendary-martial-artist-and>

PART 3: Listening Comprehension

Watch the following video on You Tube to train your listening ability. It tells you about the Ip Man movie:

THE GRANDMASTER | From Ip Man to Bruce Lee

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P-8shuZKkqM>

The search for Wing Chun Grandmaster Ip Man's house in Fatshan with Sifu Sergio

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-0sgmWFUfJ8>

PART 4: Writing Practice

Do you know the expression “form the backbone”?

When one thing forms the backbone of another, it becomes the most important part of it. In the main article, you can find the following sentence in which this expression is used:

Fights between Ip and other people – who are usually masters of different forms of martial arts, or fighters who use special Kungfu techniques – form the backbone of the films.

To give you another example, you can also say:

A capable management team forms the backbone of a successful company.

Can you make a sentence of your own to practice the use of this expression?

Send your writing to: see.u@cccu.edu.hk. Remember! Our SEE U teachers are always ready to give you feedback.

The following is/are answer(s) to relevant question(s) in the preceding set of exercises “Wing Chun Kungfu”

Qt 4:

- Hong Kong Wing Chun teacher takes on **viral** Kungfu videos
- Bruce Lee used to **blend** different styles into his fighting regime.
- Hsu kept his cool even when the man started shouting racial **slurs** at him.
- However, when the man became physically aggressive, Hsu **went into action**.
- Hsu said part of what his master, the renowned Wing Chun Kungfu teacher Sergio Pascal, taught him is that the basis of martial arts is relaxation – not **pummelling** people.

Qt 5: About 300 years ago, the Shaolin and the Hans were being **oppressed by** the Manchu warriors.

Qt 6: The Manchus **stormed** the temple and burned it down.

Qt 7: Lim Bat Chao in turn **named** the Wing Chun system **after** his wife.

Suggested answers for sentences writing:

Qt 8: It was often seen in history that weak nations were **oppressed by** strong ones.

Qt 9: The rioters **stormed** the supermarket and robbed away all food inside.

Qt 10: The city of Zhongshan (中山) was **named after** the national father of China, Sun Yixian.