

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

Week 1

#105 Jet Li (李連杰)

Skills/ Objectives: Reading, Listening and Writing Skills

PART 1: Before you read...

Preparatory questions

Qt 1: Did you know that Jet Li is no longer a Chinese citizen? He is now a Singaporean.

Qt 2: What do you think are the characteristics of Jet Li's Kungfu style?

Vocabulary

1. frail (adjective): weak and unhealthy.
2. legion (noun): a large number.
3. glimpse (noun): quick look at something.
4. tower over (phrasal verb): to appear taller than somebody.
5. in the public spotlight (prepositional phrase): catching public attention.
6. posted with pride (phrasal verb): to publish something on the internet with pride.
7. live-action (noun): action performed by real persons.
8. disaster relief (noun): activity to help victims of a disaster.
9. lost sight of (phrasal verb): to forget about something important.
10. donations (noun): money or items contributed to help people in need.

PART 2: Article for Reading

The following article posted in SCMP tells you the interesting story of Jet Li and his two daughters:

Jet Li poses with daughters for Christmas Day picture in rare glimpse into private life

<https://www.scmp.com/sport/other-sport/article/2179650/jet-li-poses-daughters-christmas-day-picture-rare-glimpse-private>

PART 3: Listening Comprehension

Listen to the following short video clip to learn more about the topic while practicing your listening skills:

Jet Li (李连杰) UK Fan Club Event & Interview 2000
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BL6tVdnfzkM>

PART 4: Writing Practice

Are you aware that “legions of people” can be used to describe many people who are in favour of a particular person?

This expression gives an interesting description as the word “legion” basically means a large group of soldiers belonging to a section of a big army as in the Roman Army. In the main article, the writer refers to Jet Li’s fans in the following sentence:

Jet Li’s frail appearance earlier this year shocked his legion of fans.

Without mentioning any number or an adjective like “many” or “large”, the writer is clearly telling us he has a huge number of fans, comparable to a legion of the army. This is a humorous comparison and it adds style to the writing. To see its effect better, just compare the above sentence with the following two sentences describing the same thing in a more factual or simplistic way. Don’t you find them monotonous?

Jet Li’s frail appearance earlier this year shocked his large number of fans.

Jet Li’s frail appearance earlier this year shocked his nearly 2 million fans.

Another demonstration of the use of this figurative description is given below:

The political leader can easily win a seat in the council with his legion of supporters.

Can you write a sentence of your own using this expression “building blocks”? Send your writing to: **see.u@ccu.edu.hk**. Remember! Our **SEE U** teachers are always ready to give you feedback.