

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

Week 7

#132 Prestigious Universities in the World— Tsinghua University

Skills/ Objectives: Reading, Listening and Writing Skills

PART 1: Before you read...

Preparatory questions

Qt 1: What does President Xi have in mind when he speaks of his “Chinese Dream”?

Qt 2: What are your own dreams and wishes?

Qt 3: How many Chinese universities you can name off the top of your head? And ask yourself: Which one pops up in your mind first?

The answers to Qt 1 will be provided in the next set of exercises.

The answers to relevant questions in the preceding set of exercises (Prestigious Universities in the World—the Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore (IIMB)) are as follows:

Answer to Qt. 2. Bangalore (as opposed to New Delhi).

Answer to Qt. 3. Located at the heart of India’s Silicon Valley, IIMB is a graduate school offering postgraduate degree programmes, currently housing only 1,200 students.

Vocabulary

- Ranking (noun): the position something or someone has in a list that compares their importance, quality, success, etc.
- Leapfrog (verb): to improve your position by going past other people quickly.
- Progress (noun): movement to an improved or more developed state.
- Emerging (adjective): starting to exist.
- Echelon (noun): a particular level or group of people within an organization.

PART 2: Article for Reading

Read the following *China Daily* article and see the latest edition of the *Times Higher Education* World University Rankings (2019):

Chinese mainland now home to Asia's two best universities

<http://global.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201909/12/WS5d795158a310cf3e3556b16f.html>

PART 3: Listening Comprehension

Listen to the following short video clips to learn more about the currently highest-ranked university in mainland China. Notice how they feature women and international students (students of races and ethnicities other than the nationals). You will probably see the same for most other universities when they are promoting their programmes.

Welcome to Tsinghua

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j1XkEytJi8q>

China's Tsinghua University ranked number one in Asia

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-qg16vbmny0>

PART 4: Writing Practice

Did you notice the nice description in the following sentence in the main text?

Europe makes a strong showing once again, with almost half of the global top 200 coming from the continent.

“A showing” is different from “a show.”

When you say a “showing,” you are understood to be referring to the quality of somebody’s performance, especially in a competitive environment. But when you say a “show,” you are talking about the performance itself. Compare the following sentences:

Despite his age, Jeff managed a strong showing in the world championship this year.

His great skills always guarantee a good show.

And—

The presidential candidate has maintained a strong showing in the opinion polls.

Every one of her public speeches has been a good show. It was both fun to watch and you always came away having learnt something new.

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