

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

Week 3

#161 Five influential Hong Kong families: the Kadoorie family

Skills/ Objectives: Reading, Listening and Writing Skills

PART 1: Before you read...

Preparatory questions

Qt 1: Kadoorie Hill, Kadoorie Farm, the Peninsula Hotel.... Do these landmarks strike you? Do you know they have something in common?

Qt 2: In Hong Kong, why do we see so many place names bearing non-Chinese references?

Qt 3: How does an individual's hard work, achievement, or even luck, pass down the generations and guarantee further success?

Vocabulary

- Barren (adjective): not producing or unable to produce plants.
- Mint(ed) (verb): to produce a coin for the government.
- Propensity (noun): the fact that someone is likely to behave in a particular way.
- Asset (noun): something having value, such as a possession or property.
- Foresight (noun): the ability to judge correctly what is going to happen in the future and plan your actions based on this knowledge.

PART 2: Article for Reading

Welcome to Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden Hong Kong! A visit to Kadoorie Farm is in the collective memory of many people growing up and going to primary school in Hong Kong. Where else do we go within the Kadoorie family's premises?

How a Family Turned a Barren Hillside into a \$4.4 Billion Property Empire

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/features/2018-08-27/the-kadoorie-family-turned-barren-hillside-into-hong-kong-empire>

PART 3: Listening Comprehension

Watch the following short video clip to learn more about the Kadoorie family and a good portion of Hong Kong history while practicing your listening skills at the same time:

The Kadoorie Estate - A Short History
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZfrTGmR-DZo>

PART 4: Writing Practice

There is something admirable about even today's Kadoorie family, notably headed by Michael Kadoorie, and there is the common perception that—

Despite their massive fortunes, the Kadoories maintain a low profile, which sets them apart in a town where wealth is openly flaunted.

Who are the Kadoories?

The original Kadoorie family was headed by the Kadoorie brothers, Ellis and Elly Kadoorie. Today their business conglomerate is still firmly held in the hands of their successive families—the Kadoorie family, that is.

When we refer to the family as a unit, we can either say “the Kadoorie family,” or “the Kadoories,” with their surname pluralized.

This applies to surnames originating from any nationalities.

Now rewrite these surnames in the plurals:

e.g. Kadoorie → the Kadoories

1. Johnson
2. Trump
3. Macron
4. Morrison
5. Xi
6. Lam
7. Reeves

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