

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

Week 3

**#165 Five influential Hong Kong families: the Kwok family**

**Skills/ Objectives: Reading, Listening and Writing Skills**

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

**Preparatory questions**

Qt 1: In Hong Kong, how different are subsidized housing and the private sector?

Qt 2: Are you happy living where you live?

Qt 3: Private housing is a prized possession, but due to insufficient regulation, quality varies. What are some of the common problems associated with Hong Kong's private housing market?

Qt 4: How would you rate Sun Hung Kai Properties?

**Vocabulary**

- charismatic (adjective): having a special power that some people have naturally that makes them able to influence other people.
- bribery (noun): an attempt to make someone do something for you by giving the person money or present.
- skyline (noun): a shape or pattern made against the sky, especially by buildings.
- watchdog (noun): a person or organization responsible for making certain that companies obey particular standards and do not act illegally.

**PART 2: Article for Reading**

It might be something of an exaggeration to say that nearly everybody in Hong Kong wants a piece of Sun Hung Kai Properties. To most people, however, SHK Properties have always remained a pipe dream. Who are the men behind this dream?

***Who are the Kwok brothers?***

<https://www.bbc.com/news/business-17752115>

**PART 3: Listening Comprehension**

Can money buy one's way out of crime and punishment? Watch the following short news clip to learn more about the downfall of two of the Kwok brothers:

*Hong Kong Billionaire Gets Five Years in Prison*  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X9r4xZyl464>

#### **PART 4: Writing Practice**

The Kwoks' family business, currently headed by Thomas Kwok's eldest son (third generation), is still going strong. Write briefly about your views on the continuation of a family business: its pros and cons. Send your writing to: **see.u@ccu.edu.hk**. Remember! Our **SEE U** teachers are always ready to give you feedback.