

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

Week 10

#198 Famous Chinese poet – Li Qingzhao (李清照)

Skills/ Objectives: Reading, Listening and Writing Skills

PART 1: Before you read...

Preparatory questions

- Have you heard of the famous poet in Song Dynasty China, Li Qingzhao?
- Did you know what is special about Li Qingzhao? She was not just a distinguished poet but a female one in a male-dominated Chinese society at that time.

Vocabulary

- anomaly (n): a person or thing that is unusual from the norm and therefore disapproved of by people.
- beloved (adj)
- skiff (n): a small boat used with oars, a sail or motor
- erudite (adj): knowledgeable
- lovesick (adj): being in bad physical conditions because of longing for love
- pining (n): feeling of deep longing
- forlorn (n): a hopeless or desperate enterprise.
- ambivalences (n): mixed feelings or emotions
- posits (n): an idea accepted as true to provide a basis for logical reasoning
- iconoclastic (n): with attacks on established beliefs or institutions
- denigrate (v): to play down on something
- persona non grata (n): a person not welcome by the government of a country.
- ingenuity (n): a person's ability to think of wise ways to do things.
- emigré (n): a person who cannot return to his own country for political reasons.
- avant-garde (n): very advanced for his time.

PART 2: Article for Reading

Now read the article posted at the following web-site to learn more about the Song Dynasty Chinese poet, Li Qingzhao:

Stanford poetry scholar offers new perspective on China's most revered female poet

<https://news.stanford.edu/news/2014/july/qingzhao-chinese-poet-071614.html>

PART 3: Listening Comprehension

Listen to the following video posted on YouTube to practise your listening skills and learn more about the topic:

Li Qingzhao

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AJudpOwjTX8>

PART 4: Writing Practice

Is the following your usual way of writing?

As one of *China's* best-known poets, Li Qingzhao wrote during the Song Dynasty in the 12th century.

There is nothing wrong in the above statement but it could be written in a neater way by skipping the preposition “as” as you can see in the article follows:

One of China's best-known poets, she wrote during the Song Dynasty in the 12th century.

Similar examples are as follows:

- A diligent student, Tom never gives up on any difficulty encountered in his studies.
- A mother of two sons, Mary has strong determination to bring up her children.

Can you think of a similar way for writing your own sentence? **Send your writing to:** see.u@cccu.edu.hk. Remember! Our SEE U teachers are always ready to give you feedback.