

Notes for Teachers on article

1. It is important to keep in mind that our aim is to improve the students' reading ability, practise pronunciation of words, intonation, as well as to encourage them to discuss freely the contents of the passage.
2. This passage encourages debate on old and new, and allows the students to express their opinions on the recent public outcry (2006-7) on preserving Hong Kong's heritage, such as the Hong Kong Star Ferry clock and pier. They can gain information from their grandparents on the old and new in their standard of living and social conditions.
3. At this point in time it may be useful to show the students how to jot down notes for their presentations, rather than to read sentences from papers. Copying out sentences from the passage wastes time that they should use in thinking about the contents of the piece. Just jotting down a word or two will remind them of the points they intend to mention. Students who read sentences from notes, may lose eye-contact, and if they regain eye-contact, they lose their place in the sentences they have written. Having lost the place in their notes, some students then begin their sentence again from the beginning, wasting time and losing marks all the time. They must train their minds to remember the main points and the meaning of the passage, to enable them to think and make contributions in the debate which takes place after their presentations.
4. Remind the students that they should add their own ideas during their presentations and discussions, provided they do not change the subject of the piece.