

User guide to Quest online resources



Quest's Demo site



Building a clean Hong Kong

In densely packed cities like Hong Kong, where people in many districts live **close together** with small businesses like restaurants, localised hygiene **black spots** can frequently develop.

To prevent unmet needs in past populations such as rodents and man-made **reservoirs** like dropping air conditioners, the Hong Kong Government has created an online system that enables everyone to work together.

On 31 January, the government launched a new website displaying an online map that lists more than 700 hygiene black spots in various districts of Hong Kong. These spots include streets, back alleys and rubbish disposal areas.

The website, which is currently only in Chinese, allows citizens to witness and monitor the government's progress in Members of the public, including students, can view hygiene black spots by district or key in a location on the map for a direct search.

As you are all students who **commute** to school every day, you can play a vital role. Compare how the hygiene black spots look like when you pass by them before and after the cleaning operations.

Students can report **relapse cases** or new hygiene black spots by providing feedback on the website. This helps the government keep the programme on track. Newly reported spots will be added to the programme's list of hygiene black spots after being verified by the relevant department.

Responding to an outburst of complaints from the public, the Chief Executive John Lee initiated the citywide environmental hygiene campaign when he took office in July 2022.

The initiative has been **implemented** and extended by Deputy Chief Secretary for Administration Cheuk Wing-hing. He urged citizens to join forces with the government to combat hygiene black spots and build a highly livable environment that all are proud to call home.



Idiom

Check by jowl

JOWL refers to the lower part of one's cheek. To be check by jowl with someone or something is to be very close together, side by side. The idiom is often used to describe cramped living conditions, for example, "The family of six lived cheek by jowl in a one-room flat."



Articles read aloud by a native speaker

Articles read aloud by a native English speaker to give students more exposure to the way English sounds.

Podcast

Scan the QR code to hear the One-minute English podcast presented by native English speaker.

Buy less, wear more

Do you purchase more clothes than you can wear? How much attention do you pay to the impact of products on the environment? We can all use a lesson in sustainable fashion.

The fashion industry in its current state is not **sustainable**. It adds more to climate change than the aeronautical and shipping industries combined. It wastes heavy environmental tolls with its chemical emissions and water waste, and exploits workers and harms animals too.

Also called "ethical fashion" and "eco-fashion", sustainable fashion is described by Eco Canada as "fashion developed by companies that pay their workers a living wage, give them safe, healthy working conditions and monitor its environmental impact, taking care to use more sustainable materials and reduce resource use throughout their product's life cycle". On the right are features of the kind of fashion.

Organic cotton
ORGANIC cotton is a sustainable fabric because it is grown without using synthetic fertilisers and pesticides that harm the environment. It can be used to reduce pollution which has been the dominant view for decades.

Eco-friendly
FABRICS that are eco-friendly are designed, manufactured, distributed, and used in a manner that reduces the environmental impact of the fashion industry, such as using eco-friendly materials and reducing waste.

Recycled fabrics
RECYCLED materials have been used previously and processed to create new fabrics. Using recycled fabrics reduces the amount of waste that is dumped in landfills and helps to conserve natural resources.

Animal rights
THERE are ethical concerns with materials like leather and fur which are made from animals. Sustainable fashion uses materials that do not harm animals and avoid the environmental impacts from raising animals for their hides.

Natural dyes
DYES made from plant and animal material are eco-friendly, renewable, and biodegradable. They are a natural alternative to chemical dyes that require a lot of energy to produce and are toxic to the environment.

Second-hand clothes
SECOND-HAND clothes can be upcycled, swapped and shared. The redesigning of old clothes gives them **another lease of life**, and helps to reduce the waste and pollution of the fashion industry. It can also be a fun way to express one's creativity and individuality.

A new lease of life
A NEW lease of life, or a new lease on life (American usage), means an increase in the period for which something can be used or continued; to improve something that was old so that it works much better. It can also describe someone appearing more energetic and active than before.
- The patient got a new lease of life after the surgery corrected her heart problem.
- The rehabilitation gave the old table a new lease of life.

VOCABULARY

1. sustainable (adj) 可持续发展的	2. ethical (adj) 道德的	3. distribute (v) 分派
2. toll (n) 收费	4. organic (adj) 有机的	6. hide (n) 皮革

Video links

Provides video links to outside content to help expand students knowledge of topics in a visual format.

The life of the Wakhi shepherdeses

The Pakistani female sheep herders travel to work on a dangerous road and work shifts that last for months. They live a way of life that is dying out.



THOSE who are unhappy with their jobs may gain **perspective** by learning about the WAKHI shepherdeses – women of the "Simalu" village in the mountainous region of northern Pakistan who take sheep, goats and yaks for grazing at mountain **pastures**.

That might sound like a laid-back way of making a living. But it is, in fact, a highly **hardcore** and harsh vocation, both for the shepherdeses and their children, whom they have to take to work.

"The road to the pastures, called Parik, is treacherous, reported BBC's Farhat Ishtiaq, who followed the shepherdeses on one of their last trips. It was no **exaggeration** when she observed, "The steep mountain trails wind and twist – one wrong step and you are gone."

Every summer, the shepherdeses leave home, carrying their children and supplies on a narrow, steep, stony path.

along a narrow, rugged mountain path, through rain, snow and **scorching** heat, to take their flock to the lush green pastures 5,000 metres above sea level. In the odd days, they loaded adequate clothing or shoes.

These dauntless women spent the entire summer looking after their flock. At night, they had to burn fires and sleep on the roof of their stone hut to avoid attacks by snakes and leopards. During the day, they make yoghurt and butter to take back to the village.

For generations, the women of the village, young and old, have lived this hard life until their daily business earned enough to fund the construction of the first road that linked the village to civilisation in the early 2000s, allowing their children to go to the outside world, receive an education and lead more comfortable lives.

Only a few of the shepherdeses are left, all in their old age. Soon, their way of life will become extinct as the younger generation bravely does not have to **follow in their footsteps**.

I Wonder

Grazing and pastures

GRAZING is to let livestock like cows, horses and sheep eat grass in a field. As a noun, it refers to land with grass that the livestock can eat. Such land is also called pasture. Grazing may cause ecological costs, if not properly managed. Decades of over-grazing cause damage to grasslands and can turn them into dry wastelands.



THIS expression means to do the same thing as someone else did previously, especially as a job. If your parents are teachers, and you follow in their footsteps, it means you have become a teacher too. A related expression is "follow suit", which means to do the same thing. If one shop reduces prices and another follows suit, it means it is also cutting prices, like the first shop.

VOCABULARY

1. perspective (n) 看法	3. pasture (n) 牧场	5. exaggeration (n) 夸张
2. job (n) 职业	4. hardcore (adj) 困难的	6. scorching (adj) 灼热的

Download All the learning activities (Vocabulary List, Word Search, Anagrams, Review Quiz, etc.) from quest.hkej.com

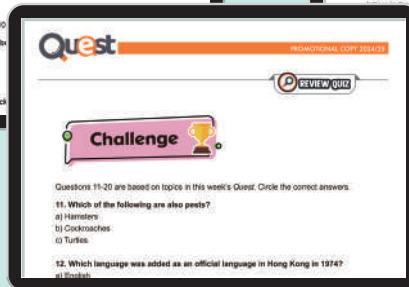
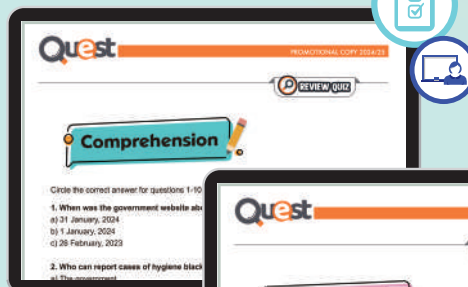
QUEST is also available to download on the App Store (iOS) and Google Play Store (Android).

Review Quiz

An online quiz to test students' understanding of all the articles.

PDF

Downloadable Exercises and Review Quiz at a glance



Vocabulary & Phrases

Translation of keywords to aid comprehension.

Word Search & Anagrams

Word games for students to spark interest in learning English.

Review Quiz

Questions to test understanding of articles and includes a general knowledge quiz.

Answer Key

Answer Key is exclusive to teacher's account.