

Hong Kong Students Protest

The eyes of the world are watching closely what is going on in Hong Kong - where tens of thousands of students have been demonstrating peacefully against their government.

'The Umbrella Revolution', as it's known, is happening because students there are calling for full democracy and the city's right to elect its new leader without any interference or rubber stamping interference from China's leaders in Beijing.

Hong Kong students are carrying umbrellas to protect themselves from government troops, who used tear gas to attack them recently. They also use them against the seasonal wet weather. Other safeguards the students are carrying to protect themselves against further tear gas attacks include: gas masks, goggles, surgical masks, scarfs and water.

Hong Kong residents were supposedly given the right to freely elect their leader - who is called the Chief Executive - for the first time in 2017. It was part of the deal made when Hong Kong reverted back to China in 1997.

Currently Hong Kong's leader is elected by a 1,200 strong committee stacked with Beijing loyalists. Last month things changed when China said it would allow only Beijing-vetted candidates to participate in the 2017 election. This is an apparent backtrack on its earlier promise.

Current Chief Executive C.Y. Leung said China will not back down from its position on Hong Kong. Government officials in Hong Kong have called the demonstrations illegal. The city's financial district has seen widespread disruption because of the demonstrations that have caused many banks in it to temporarily close.

On the Chinese mainland China has heavily censored the pro-democracy Hong Kong demonstrations - the largest since the British departed in 1997 - using its famous but notorious firewall. Any article with the words '*Hong Kong demonstrations*' in, is quickly deleted!

SPEAKING – WARM UP

What is an umbrella? Now think of three things you know about Hong Kong. What is the connection between an umbrella and Hong Kong? Go round the room swapping details with others.

LISTENING – WRITING - DICTATION

The teacher will read some lines of the article slowly to the class.

READING

Students should now read the article aloud, swapping readers every paragraph.

SPEAKING - UNDERSTANDING

1) The article – Students check any unknown vocabulary or phrases with the teacher.

2) The article - Students should look through the article with the teacher.

- 1) What is the article about?
- 2) What do you think about the article?
- 3) Was this an easy or difficult article to understand?
- 4) Was this a boring or interesting article?
- 5) Discuss the article.

3) Article quiz - Students quiz each other in pairs. Score a point for each correct answer. Score half a point each time you have to look at the article for help. See who can get the highest score!

Student A questions

- 1) Name the Chief Executive in Hong Kong.
- 2) How many people are on 'the committee'?
- 3) What happened in 1997?
- 4) Explain what you know about 'The Great Chinese Firewall'.
- 5) What will happen in 2017?

Student B questions

- 1) Who are demonstrating and where?
- 2) Who is going to rubber stamp what?
- 3) What is the revolution known as? Why?
- 4) Where is Hong Kong?
- 5) What other safeguards are the students carrying?

Hong Kong Students Protest - 30th September 2014

WRITING / SPEAKING

In pairs. On the board write as many words as you can to do with '**Hong Kong Students Protest**'. *One-two minutes.* Compare with other teams. Using your words compile a short dialogue together.

WRITING / SPEAKING

In pairs - Write down three points from the article about the Hong Kong Students protesting. Talk about them.

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____

Add three other points. Discuss together.

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____

SPEAKING - ROLEPLAY 2

In pairs. *Student A* is Hong Kong Chief Executive C.Y. Leung. *Student B* is a foreign journalist in Hong Kong. *Student B* is asking questions to *Student A* about the student demonstrations in Hong Kong. *3-mins.*

DISCUSSION

Student A questions

- 1) Why are the student demonstrations in Hong Kong known as 'The Umbrella Revolution'?
- 2) What does the communist leadership in Beijing think of the student demonstrations in Hong Kong?
- 3) Should Beijing be allowed go back on its deal to allow free elections in Hong Kong in 2017?
- 4) Who will win this demonstration?
- 5) What is the latest on the student demonstration?
- 6) Will mainland China crack down like it did against the students in Tiananmen Square in 1989?
- 7) How will business, like banks, be affected during the student demonstrations in Hong Kong?
- 8) Is rubber-stamping leadership really what the people of Hong Kong want?
- 9) Have you learnt anything in today's English lesson?

SPEAKING - ROLEPLAY 1

In groups. One of you is the interviewer. There are up to four guests. You are in the *CNN Hong Kong* television studio. Today's interview is: *Hong Kong Students Protest. 10 mins.*

- 1) A Hong Kong student.
- 2) A businessperson in Hong Kong's financial district.
- 3) A journalist reporting on the student demonstrations.
- 4) A tourist in Hong Kong.

The teacher will choose some groups to roleplay their interview in front of the class.

SPEAKING - ROLEPLAY 2

In pairs. *Student A* is a student in Hong Kong. *Student B* is a foreign journalist in Hong Kong. *Student B* is asking questions to *Student A* about the demonstrations in Hong Kong. *3-mins.*

SPEAKING - DISCUSSION

Allow 10 minutes - As a class.

<p><i>Hong Kong Students Protest - Google the latest! Talk about the situation</i></p>
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The teacher can moderate the session.

DISCUSSION

Student B questions

- 1) Why has China apparently backtracked on its earlier promise?
- 2) How serious is the situation in Hong Kong?
- 3) Why is China blocking any information about the Hong Kong demonstrations on its famous 'Great Firewall of China'?
- 4) Why did the student demonstrations start?
- 5) Why did the police let off tear gas against peaceful demonstrators?
- 6) Will Hong Kong's police/troops patience wear thin and a crackdown start?
- 7) What will be the end result in Hong Kong following these student demonstrations?
- 8) Has this been a difficult lesson for you to understand?
- 9) Did you like this discussion?

GAP FILL: READING

Hong Kong Students Protest

The eyes of the world are watching closely what is going on in Hong Kong - where tens of thousands of students have been demonstrating (1)___ against their government. 'The (2)___ Revolution', as it's known, is happening because students there are calling for full (3)___ and the city's right to (4)___ its new leader without any interference or rubber stamping interference from China's leaders in Beijing. Hong Kong students are carrying umbrellas to protect themselves from government (5)___, who used tear gas to attack them recently. They also use them against the seasonal wet weather. Other safeguards the (6)___ are carrying to protect themselves against further tear gas attacks include: gas masks, (7)___, surgical masks, scarfs and water. Hong Kong residents were supposedly given the right to freely elect their leader - who is called the Chief Executive - for the first time in 2017. It was part of the (8)___ made when Hong Kong reverted back to China in 1997.

students / democracy / troops / peacefully / deal / elect / umbrella / goggles

Currently Hong Kong's leader is elected by a 1,200 strong committee stacked with Beijing (1)___ . Last month things changed when China said it would allow only Beijing-vetted candidates to participate in the 2017 election. This is an apparent (2)___ on its earlier promise. Current Chief Executive C.Y. Leung said China will not back down from its (3)___ on Hong Kong. Government officials in Hong Kong have called the demonstrations (4)___ . The city's financial district has seen (5)___ (6)___ because of the demonstrations that have caused many banks in it to temporarily close. On the Chinese mainland China has (7)___ censored the pro-democracy Hong Kong demonstrations - the largest since the British departed in 1997 - using its famous but notorious (8)___ . Any article with the words 'Hong Kong demonstrations' in, is quickly deleted!

disruption / firewall / / loyalists / position / widespread / illegal / backtrack

GAP FILL: GRAMMAR

Hong Kong Students Protest

The eyes of the world are watching closely (1)___ is going on in Hong Kong - (2)___ tens of thousands of students have been demonstrating peacefully against their government. 'The Umbrella Revolution', as it's known, is happening (3)___ students there are calling for full democracy and the city's right to elect its new leader without any interference or rubber stamping interference from China's leaders in Beijing. Hong Kong students are carrying umbrellas to protect themselves from government troops, who used tear gas to attack (4)___ recently. They (5)___ use them against the seasonal wet weather. (6)___ safeguards the students are carrying to protect themselves against further tear gas attacks include: gas masks, goggles, surgical masks, scarfs and water. Hong Kong residents were supposedly given the right to freely elect (7)___ leader - who is called the Chief Executive - for the first time in 2017. It was part of the deal made (8)___ Hong Kong reverted back to China in 1997.

other / when / because / what / their / them / where / also

Currently Hong Kong's leader is elected (1)___ a 1,200 strong committee stacked with Beijing loyalists. Last month things changed when China said it would allow only Beijing-vetted candidates to participate in the 2017 election. This is (2)___ apparent backtrack on its earlier promise. Current Chief Executive C.Y. Leung said China will not back down from its position (3)___ Hong Kong. Government officials in Hong Kong have called the demonstrations illegal. (4)___ city's financial district has seen widespread disruption because of the demonstrations that have caused many banks in it to temporarily close. On the Chinese mainland China has heavily censored the pro-democracy Hong Kong demonstrations - the largest since the British departed (5)___ 1997 - using (6)___ famous (7)___ notorious firewall. (8)___ article with the words 'Hong Kong demonstrations' in, is quickly deleted!

the / any / but / its / by / on / an / in

GAP FILL: LISTENING

WRITING/SPEAKING

Hong Kong Students Protest

The _____ are watching closely what is going on in Hong Kong - where tens of thousands of students have been demonstrating peacefully against _____ their _____ government. '_____', as it's known, is happening because students there are calling for full democracy and the city's right to elect its new leader without any interference or rubber stamping interference from China's leaders in Beijing. Hong Kong students are carrying umbrellas to _____ from government troops, who used tear gas to attack them recently. They also use them against the seasonal wet weather. Other safeguards the students are carrying to protect themselves against further tear gas attacks include: gas masks, goggles, surgical masks, scarfs and water. Hong Kong residents were supposedly given the right to _____ - who is called

the Chief Executive - for the first time in 2017. It was _____ made when Hong Kong reverted back to China in 1997. Currently Hong Kong's leader is elected by a 1,200 strong committee stacked with Beijing loyalists. Last month things changed when China said it would allow only _____ to participate in the 2017 election. This is an apparent backtrack on its earlier promise. Current Chief Executive C.Y. Leung said China will not back down from its position on Hong Kong. _____ in Hong Kong have called the demonstrations illegal. The city's _____ has seen widespread disruption because of the demonstrations that have caused many banks in it to temporarily close. On the _____ China has heavily censored the pro-democracy Hong Kong demonstrations - the largest since the British departed in 1997 - using its famous but notorious firewall. Any article with the words '_____' in, is quickly deleted!

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WRITING / SPEAKING

1) On the board - In pairs, as a class - write down **20 things about Hong Kong**. Talk about them! 5 mins.

2) Sentence starters - Finish these sentence starters. Correct your mistakes. Compare what other people have written.

- 1) Hong Kong _____
- 2) The students _____
- 3) The Chief Executive _____

3) Homework - Write and send a 200 word email to your teacher about: **Hong Kong Students Protest**. Your email can be read out in class.

GAP FILL READING

ANSWERS

- 1) peacefully
- 2) umbrella
- 3) democracy
- 4) elect
- 5) troops
- 6) students
- 7) goggles
- 8) deal

- 1) loyalists
- 2) backtrack
- 3) position
- 4) illegal
- 5) widespread
- 6) disruption
- 7) heavily
- 8) firewall

SPELLING

SPELLING

The teacher will ask the class individually to spell the following words that are in the article. Afterwards check your answers.

Use the following ratings:

- Pass = 12**
- Good = 15**
- Very good = 18**
- Excellent = 20**

- 1) scarfs
- 2) goggles
- 3) surgical
- 4) notorious
- 5) supposedly
- 6) peacefully
- 7) umbrella
- 8) revolution
- 9) further
- 10) seasonal

- 11) loyalists
- 12) vetted
- 13) themselves
- 14) committee
- 15) participate
- 16) apparent
- 17) backtrack
- 18) illegal
- 19) widespread
- 20) disruption

Hong Kong Students Protest - *30th September 2014*