

LESSON NOTES

Advanced Audio Blog S1 #1 House Hunting in China

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TRADITIONAL CHINESE

1. 租屋
2. 同大部份市民一樣，買樓對於我嚟講，就好似要中六合彩頭獎咁難，唔係，應該係難過中六合彩。就係因為咁，我就好自然咁認為樓價同我有關係。直到大概半個月之前，房東突然同我講，我哋嘅合約就快到期，而家嘅樓價係咁升，從下個月開始，你嘅屋租要從一千四加到一千七，冇價講。我當堂呆曬，呢間喺郊區嘅屋都要一千七一個月？有冇搞錯啊？房東話，冇搞錯，少一個仙都唔得。
3. 我諗，橫掂都係要加租，不如乾脆搬去市中心，同人哋夾份租一間離公司近嘅大屋，仲可以慳返每日嘅車馬費同埋上落班嘅時間，一舉兩得！我將呢個決定話咗俾房東知之後，房東仲開心過我，原來佢一早就搵好新嘅租客，肯出兩千蚊租呢套房，所以佢迫不及待咁趕我搬出去。
4. 人情冷暖，世態炎寒，我唯有接受。於是我亦都開始馬不停蹄咁搵屋。每日除咗返工，就係睇屋，每日都搞到夜晚十點先翻到屋企。最高紀錄係一晚睇咗四套房。其實如果我搵地產經紀，俾一兩千蚊嘅中介費，自己就會輕鬆好多，但係呢度嘅中介口碑好差，仲有好多係扼錢嘅添，所以好似我咁知慳識儉又醒目嘅女仔，梗係自己搵屋啦。

JYUTPING

1. zou1 uk1

2. tung4 daai6 bou6 fan6 si5 man4 jat1 joeng6 , maai5 lau2 deoi3 jyu1 ngo5 lai4 gong2 , zau6 hou2 ci5 jiu3 zung3 luk6 hap3 coi2 tau4 zoeng2 gam3 naan4 , m4 hai2 , jing1 goi1 hai2 naan4 gwo3 zung3 luk6 hap3 coi2 。 zau6 hai6 jan1 wai4 gam2 , ngo5 zau6 hou2 zi6 jin4 gam2 jing6 wai4 lau4 gaai3 tung4 ngo5 mou5 gwaan1 hai6 。 zik6 dou3 daai6 koi3 bun3 go3 jyut6 zi1 cin4 , fong2 dung1 dat6 jin4 tung4 ngo5 gong2 , ngo5 dei2 ge3 hap6 joek3 zau6 faai3 dou3 kei4 , ji4 gaa1 di1 lau4 gaai3 hai6 gam2 sing1 , cung4 haa6 go3 jyut6 hoi1 ci2 , nei5 ge3 uk1 zou1 jiu3 cung4 jat1 cin1 sei3 gaa1 dou3 jat1 cin1 cat1 , mou5 gaa3 gong2 。 ngo5 dong1 tong4 ngoi4 saai3 , ni1 gaan1 hai2 gaau1 keoi1 ge3 uk1 dou1 jiu3 jat1 cin1 cat1 jat1 go3 jyut6 ? jau5 mou5 gaau2 co3 aa3 ? fong4 dung1 waa3 , mou5 gaau2 co3 , siu2 jat1 go3 sin1 dou1 m4 dak1 。
3. ngo5 nim2 , waang4 dim3 dou1 hai6 jiu3 gaa1 zou1 , bat1 jyu4 gon1 ceoi3 bun1 heoi3 si5 zung1 sam1 , tung4 jan4 dei2 gaap3 fan2 zou1 jat1 gaan1 lei4 gung1 si1 kang5 ge3 daai6 uk1 , zung6 ho2 ji5 han1 faan1 mui5 jat6 ge3 geoi1 maa5 fai3 tung4 maai4 soeng5 lok6 baan1 ge3 si4 gaan3 , jat1 geoi2 loeng5 dak1 ! ngo5 zoeng1 ni1 go3 kyut3 ding6 waa3 zo2 bei2 fong4 dung1 zi1 zi1 hau6 , fong4 dung1 zung6 hoi1 sam1 gwo3 ngo5 , jyun4 loi4 keoi5 jat1 zou2 zau6 wan2 hou2 san1 ge3 zou1 haak3 , hang2 ceot1 loeng5 cin1 man1 zou1 ni1 tou3 fong2 , so2 ji5 keoi5 bik1 bat1 gap6 doi6 gam2 gon2 ngo5 bun1 ceot1 heoi3 。
4. jan4 cing4 laang5 nyun5 , sai3 taai3 jim4 hon4 , ngo5 wai4 jau5 zip3 sau6 。 jyu1 si6 ngo5 jik6 dou1 hoi1 ci2 maa5 bat1 ting4 tai4 gam2 wan2 uk1 。 mui5 jat6 ceoi4 zo2 faan1 gung1 , zau6 hai2 tai2 uk1 , mui5 jat6 dou1 gaau2 dou3 je6 maan5 sap6 dim2 sin1 faan1 dou3 uk1 kei2 。 zeoi3 gou1 gei2 luk6 hai6 jat1 maan5 tai2 zo2 sei3 tou3 fong2 。 kei4 sat6 jyu4 guo2 ngo5 wan2 dei6 caan2 ging1 gei2 , bei2 jat1 loeng5 cin1 man1 ge3 zung1 gaai3 fai3 , zi6 gei2 zau6 wui5 hing1 sung1 hou2 do1 , daan6 hai6 ni1 dou6 ge3 zung1 gaai3 hau2 bei1 hou2 caa1 , zung6 jau5 hou2 do1 hai6 aak1 cin2 ge3 tim1 , so2 ji5 hou2 ci5 ngo5 gam3 zi1 han1 sik1 gim6 jau6 sing2 muk6 ge3 neoi5 zai2 , gang2 hai6 zi6 gei2 wan2 uk1 laa1 。

ENGLISH

CONT'D OVER

1. Renting an Apartment
2. As with most people, I think that buying a house is as difficult as hitting the first prize in the lottery. Nope, it is even more difficult than hitting the first prize in the lottery.
3. That is the reason why I think I don't have much hope of buying a house.
4. Half a month ago, my landlord told me something. She said it was time to extend our contract, but she was going to raise my rent from \$400 to \$700 a month, starting the next month. She said this was because the overall price of the house was appreciating, and there was no room for bargaining.
5. I was in shock that this kind of apartment in the countryside was still renting for \$700 a month!
6. Was there some kind of mistake?
7. The landlord said there was no mistake and I had to pay every cent.
8. Realizing that rising rental prices is an undeniable fact, I wondered why not move to the city? First, I could rent a bigger apartment near my job and split the rent with somebody else. This would also allow me to save on travel expenses and spend less time commuting between my apartment and work, thus, killing two birds with one stone.
9. After I told the landlord my decision, he was more excited than I was since he'd already found a new tenant willing to pay \$2000 a month to rent his apartment. So that was why he wanted to get rid of me.
10. Not one to live in denial, I could only accept this development.
11. So I started looking for a new apartment.

CONT'D OVER

12. Since I work during the day, I had to look for a new apartment in the evenings. Because of this, it would be ten o'clock at night by the time I finally arrived home.
13. Actually, it's an easy job to find a house if you search through a house-hunting agency and pay \$000 to \$2000 as a finder's fee. But the agencies around here have a bad reputation, and most of them work to cheat you out of money. I figured I could save money and avoid being cheated by looking for an apartment myself.

VOCABULARY

Traditional	Romanization	English	Class
呆曬	ngoi4 saai3	to be shocked	verb
房東	fong4 dung1	landlord	noun
租客	zou1 haak3	tenant	noun
輕鬆	hing1 sung1	to relax	verb
醒目	sing2 muk6	smart	adj.
慳翻	haan1 faan1	to save something	verb
搞錯	gaau2 co3	to make a mistake	verb
郊區	gaau1 keoi1	countryside	noun
租屋	zou1 uk1	to rent a house	verb
市中心	si5 zung1 sam1	city center	noun

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Real Estate in Hong Kong

Hong Kong has a limited area of space, and this has resulted in a housing shortage for Hong Kong residents. They refer to Hong Kong as a "concrete jungle."

Wealthy Hong Kongers prefer real estate next to the ocean due to the cool ocean water in the summer and the warming effect in the winter. Although Hong Kong is a small island surrounded by the sea, most of the normal Hong Kong residents live in city centers like Wan Chai, The New Territories, and Kowloon. The houses there may not be as good as the mansions built next to the sea, but the conveniences of living in the city pay off.

Many Hong Kong people still hold to the assumption that good fengshui can bring about good luck. For example, the house must be located on the hill facing the water without a view of a graveyard. They also prefer to live in a new house.

香港地產

香港是一個地方很小的地方,所以居住對香港人來說是一個很大問題,香港是一個充滿建築物的城市,人家都叫她"石屎森林"。

一般香港的有錢人都喜歡住在靠海的地方,因為在海邊的房子都是冬暖夏涼,雖然香港是一個島,四面環海,但是很多普通市民只能住在市區裏,例如灣仔,新界,九龍等等,在那裏的房子也許不是特別好,不過由於交通方便,可以省下很多車馬費。

香港很多人都注重風水,他們認為風水能給他們帶來好運,例如,房子要坐山面水,不能看見墓地,要住新房等等。