

LESSON NOTES

Video Culture Class: Hong Kong Holidays #14 Ching Ming Festival

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TRADITIONAL CHINESE

1. 大家好，我是Olivia。
2. 歡迎收看「香港節日系列」。今集我們會介紹清明節。在香港，每年的4月4、5或6日其中一天大家都會放清明節假期。
3. 現在就來看看這是一個怎麼樣的節日吧！
4. 你知道拜山時應該用什麼花嗎？
5. 我會在這影片最後公佈答案。
6. 清明節的傳統活動是拜山、掃墓和祭祖；即是到祖先墓碑前上香、除雜草、燒紙錢及紙紮祭品，一盡孝道。而且適逢春天開始，所以拜山之後，有些家庭也會乘機去郊遊，呼吸新鮮空氣。有些家庭，會提早幾天甚至幾星期去拜山，避免人多擠迫。所以拜山掃墓的傳統並不限於清明節當日。
7. 在清明節用的紙紮祭品是一些燒給先人，仿造日常產品的紙製物品，後人希望能傳達到陰間的祖先，讓他們在那裡也能夠生活豐裕。紙紮祭品店的商品款式多不勝數，有房車、別墅、傭人、遊艇、遊戲機、手提電話、護膚品、寵物等，所有我們會用的東西都有一個紙製的版本。體積小的物品都會以一比一的尺寸製造，而大體積的物品就會造成一個比較細的尺寸，方便運送。
8. 清明節還有一個常見的現象，就是經常發生山火。有些人在拜山時留下火種，又或者沒有在金屬桶中燃燒紙錢及紙紮祭品，因人為疏忽引致山火，燒毀大量樹木及野生動物。這事件備受社會關注，政府亦立例管制，及呼籲市民提高警覺性。
9. 關於清明節，有一首很著名的詩，是杜牧的《清明》，『清明時節雨紛紛，路上行人欲斷魂。借問酒家何處有？牧童遙指杏花村。』

CONT'D OVER

10. 現在就來揭曉問題的答案。
11. 你知道拜山時應該用什麼花嗎？拜山時最常用的花是菊花。因為菊花含有思、懷念的意思，其中白色的菊花更代表對逝去者的尊敬，所以清明節大部分人都在墳前獻上菊花來表示悼念故人。
12. 你覺得這一集怎麼樣？有沒有學到一些有趣的知識？在你的國家，是以什麼方式來紀念祖先的呢？在CantoneseClass101.com留言，和我們分享吧。
13. 下次見！

ENGLISH

1. Hello, everybody, I'm Olivia.
2. Welcome to the Hong Kong Holiday Series. In this lesson, we will talk about the Ching Ming Festival. In Hong Kong, one day among April 4, 5 or 6 is set as the Ching Ming public holiday.
3. Now let's see what kind of holiday it is!
4. Do you know what kind of flower you should take to a graveyard?
5. We'll show you the answer at the end of this video.

CONT'D OVER

6. The traditional activity of the Ching Ming Festival is to visit, clean, and pay our respects at our ancestors' graves. It means to carry out filial piety by burning incense, weeding, and burning joss money and papier-mâché offerings in front of the tombstones. As spring starts around the same time, some families take the opportunity to go on an outing and get some fresh air. Some families will visit the ancestors' graves a few days or even weeks earlier to avoid the crowd, so generally speaking the customs are not limited to Ching Ming day only.
7. The papier-mâché offerings we burn during the Ching Ming Festival are papier-mâché models in the shape of daily-use items; descendants send these items to their ancestors in the underworld by burning them, hoping that the ancestors will have an affluent lifestyle in the afterlife. The papier-mâché stores offer countless types of items, fancy cars, villas, servants, yachts, game consoles, mobile phones, pets, and so on. Everything that we use comes in a papier-mâché version for the deceased. Small items are usually in 1-1 size, but bigger items are usually made at a smaller scale for easier delivery.
8. There is another common phenomenon on Ching Ming Festival, wildfire. While paying respect to the deceased, some people have accidentally left fires burning, or have not used metal buckets to burn joss money and products. Wildfires started by human negligence like this have burned down a lot of trees and wildlife. Of course, this attracts a lot of public attention every year, so the government has set up laws to regulate it and raise the public's awareness of fire safety.
9. There is a very famous poem by Du Mu about the festival, Drizzling rain falls on Ching Ming days. The mourners' hearts are broken. Where can a wine-house be found to drown one's sorrow? A cowherd points to Almond Flower Village in the distance.
10. And now I'll give you the answer to the earlier quiz.

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11. The most common flower used to pay respect to the deceased is chrysanthemum. That's because chrysanthemum represents yearning and longing, especially the white chrysanthemum, which is used in memorial ceremonies. Therefore most people bring chrysanthemums to the graveyards on Ching Ming Festival.
12. How was this lesson? Did you learn a lot of interesting things? In your country, how does one commemorate their ancestors? Share with us by leaving a comment at CantoneseClass101.com.
13. And I'll see you next time.

VOCABULARY

Traditional	Romanization	English	Class
墳前	fan4 cin4	at the grave	noun
思念	si1 nim6	yearning	noun; verb
菊花	guk1 faa1	chrysanthemum	noun
著名	zyu3 ming4	famous	adjective
杜牧	dou6 muk6	Du Mu	noun
警覺性	ging1 gok3 sing3	alertness	noun
人為疏忽	jan4 wai4 so1 fat1	human negligence	noun
山火	saan1 fo2	wildfire	noun
現象	jin6 zoeng6	phenomenon	noun
版本	baan2 bun2	version	noun
多不勝數	do1 bat1 sing1 sou2	countless	adjective
豐裕	fung1 jyu6	abundant	noun
假期	gaa3 kei4	holiday	noun

清明節	cing1 ming4 zit3	Ching Ming Festival; Tomb-Sweeping Festival	noun
拜山	baai3 saan1	to commemorate a dead person at his grave	verb
掃墓	sou3 mou6	to pay respects to a dead person at his tomb	verb
祭祖	zai3 zou2	to pay respect to deceased ancestors	verb
孝道	haau3 dou6	filial piety	noun
祖先	zou2 sin1	ancestor	noun

SAMPLE SENTENCES

我聖誕節有三日假期啊，可以一齊去行街。

ngo5 sing3 daan3 zit3 jau5 saam1 jat6 gaa3 kei4, ho2 ji5 jat1 cai4 heoi3 haang4 gaai1.

I have three days holiday at Christmas, we can go shopping together.