

社評

社區爆發無可免 全民抗疫要升級

本港甲流H1N1 抗疫情勢，昨日進入緊張狀態。在本港內部，銅鑼灣聖保祿學校一名女生「確診」及多名同學「疑似」，全校停課十四天，女生均未外遊，染病源頭未明；與此同時，一名並未外遊的男子亦在參加一個酒會後，成為首宗「二代感染」，其後證實酒會上沒有外遊確診者。

在本港外部，「世衛」組織總幹事陳馮富珍今日凌晨正與全球疫情「重災區」七國：墨西哥、美國、加拿大、英國、澳洲、日本等政府衛生部門負責人舉行視像會議，準備將甲流疫情提升至頂級第六級，亦即正式宣布出現全球流感大流行。

面對此一內、外嚴峻情勢，正在廣西南寧出席泛珠三角區域合作與發展論壇的特首曾蔭權決定提前回港，已於昨晚夜從南寧乘飛機抵深圳再轉車返港，處理有關提升防疫的工作。

眼前，衛生局及專家學者之前一再警告「不可避免」的社區疫情終於爆發，本港的防疫戰線已由機場、口岸轉移至全港社區，工作範圍更廣泛、情況也更難控制。在此情況下，特區政府、醫衛部門以及廣大市民都需要及時調整心態和步伐，才能進一步做好防疫和抗疫的工作。

對衛生當局及由特首領導的抗疫督導委員會來說，當前首務，是要充分掌握內外疫情變化，以及及時向市民發放清晰準確的訊息。

對全球流感大流行的出現，「世衛」組織在公布前所一再猶豫的，就是擔心會引起人們不必要的過度恐慌。

其實，疫情第六級或全球大流行，只是一個基於地域範圍的說法，即全球有兩個洲份的兩個國家出現千人以上的確診患者即可列為第六級及大流行，但並不一定反映疫情的嚴重，為此「世衛」已準備在第六級之下再分設三個不同程度的級別以反映疫情的嚴重性。而即使甲流疫情不斷升級，「世衛」亦不主張實施禁止旅遊等限制措施。

因此，儘管全球疫情已上升至頂級，亦非「末日來臨」，本港只要做好防禦和應變措施，社會仍是安全的。而如何既提醒全港市民提高警覺，但又不要形成「相驚伯有」，就要看衛生局的工作了。

而對市民大眾來說，防疫在政府、防病在自己，個人做好一切預防措施才是根本，包括在抗疫情期間要充分注意休息及飲食，少去人多



銅鑼灣聖保祿學校中四女生染病，引發全港小學及幼稚園停課2周

擠迫的地方，保持室內空氣流通等。而即使不幸感染了甲流，只要及時求醫診治，病情也是可以治愈的。

而無論對政府或是市民來說，眼前金融海嘯餘波未了，甲流疫情又轉趨嚴峻，當前最重要的就是齊心抗疫，只有全港上下一心，加強團結，才可以克服困難、走出逆境，把疫情對本港經濟、民生和社會的影響減至最低。

迄今為止，本港口岸「嚴防死守」的工作是做得出色的，周一嶽局長的民望也得以飆升到主要官員的第一位，這就說明了民衆對政府工作支持的重要性。

事實是，不論是抗擊金融海嘯還是抗甲流，保持社會穩定都是必不可少的重要因素；如果在社區疫情爆發下仍然今日遊行、明日集會，大量人群聚集，對抗疫工作是不利的。

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中文基本功

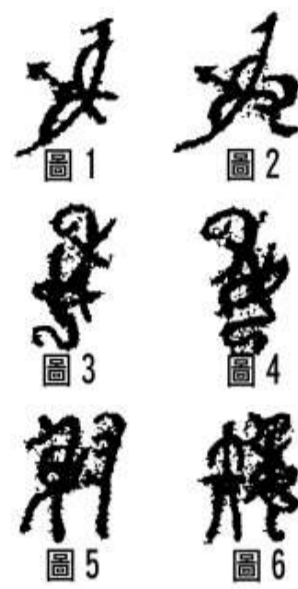
射矮二字是否顛倒 千載之謎一旦解開

五月十九日晚上，香港電台《講東講西》節目，有研究甲骨文者助陣；可是涉及這方面的不多，倒是聽眾提出一個問題，與甲骨文有關。問題是：「矮」字應該指「射」，而「射」字應該指「矮」，怎麼兩字顛倒來用，久而無人發覺？港台兩位主持、一位嘉賓（研究甲骨文者）都無正面回答，只說很久以前就有人這麼說。

很久以前就有人這麼說，確是事實。究有多久？我認為有一千年左右，因為北宋的筆記已經提到。其實，說兩字顛倒來用，不過是從現在的楷書來看，以為這兩個都是會意字。如果真懂得甲骨文和金文，懂得這兩個字演變到篆、隸、楷書的過程，就會知道兩個字原來都是象形字。

先談「射」字。它在甲骨文（圖1），像箭搭在弓上；在金文（圖2），像右手挽弓。不都是象形字嗎？

再談「矮」字。它原來與「矢」（箭）無關，而是「倭」的變相。「倭」的本字是「委」，在甲骨文（圖3）和金文（圖4）都像一個女奴拿着一根萎折了的禾草，跪在地上，也是象形字。這個形象，何以用來表示高矮的矮呢？這有各種解釋。很清楚的一點，是折了的禾稈，比之茁壯的禾稈矮小，而跪地上的女奴，又比站着的人矮了半截。後人用這個象形字表示矮，不是順理成章了嗎！



那末，「射」和「矮」何以又會變得令人誤解？那是象形的「射」字演變到小篆（圖5）時，已失去原貌，而跟末來的隸書、楷書「射」字相似；而「矮」字也在演變到小篆（圖6）時失去原貌，接近隸書和楷書的「矮」字了。

由甲骨文、金文演變到篆、隸，已超過一千年；到楷書大行其道的宋代，又過了一千多年，難道「射」、「矮」二字仍然一成不變嗎？ 容若

五星級英文



邊吃朱古力邊練發音

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練發音咬字的方法很多，最經典的是電影《窈窕淑女》(My Fair Lady) 中把幾粒朱古力放在口中，然後讀英文。曾經與學生玩過這遊戲，學生對朱古力的興趣比練發音大，於是變成了練習怎樣邊吃朱古力邊讀英文。這也有好處，因為學生很自然地慢慢讀，而且有朱古力調劑，一而再、再而三的嘗試，也不會覺得沉悶。如是者半小時，吃完朱古力，學生居然發音正確了。

玩完這遊戲後，我向學生解釋其中的「魔術」，就是吃朱古力時，口腔不免有所動作，例如朱古力不聽話，由左邊跑到右邊，或是快要吞下，急急力挽狂瀾。比較細心的學生，或者已留意到這種動作並不是講廣東話時需要做的。換言之，口腔的工作範圍被朱古力擴大了。口腔裡有很多地

方因為講廣東話用不着，長期養尊處優，朱古力來了，又要讀，不免要勞動一下。十幾分鐘後，有了點勁；朱古力走了後，仍有工作能力，所以咬字較清晰。如果不繼續訓練，這些地方也懶得好吃懶做的傢伙一樣，再去春夏秋冬眠。

留意學生的家長會發現多讀多講英文後，孩子的下巴部分比較瘦一點，看起來會比較像外國人，原因也是動用了一些不動產。這也解釋了為何一些年輕人到外國留學後，看來有點洋味。不過，雖然有些人看來帶洋味，講起英語來還是不純正。原因很多，其中一個是：語言其實是最含蓄高深的音樂，每說一句話，說的人就像作曲家一樣為這句話配上樂譜；又因為說話時往往不會事前練習，效果也就有限了。（發音與字正腔圓，下）

社經「數」描

通用福特佳士拿 美國汽車三至尊

美國品牌的汽車在香港不常見；不過，金融海嘯後，美國三大汽車品牌包括通用、福特和佳士拿卻常被傳媒引用，他們與美國社會的淵源深厚，現代美國人其實與三大車廠一同成長，有很深的情緒結，就像香港人跟山頂纜車、港島電車的情緒結一樣。

早前美國三大車廠面臨倒閉危機，美國民意基本分成兩派，一派是支持車廠繼續營運，掙扎求存，另一派是由市場決定。

支持車廠繼續運作就得由美國政府動用130億美元公帑去挽救，只不過日後車廠的營運、工人福利制度必須改變，增加競爭力，以符合市場需求。原來美國三大車廠的人力資源成

本甚高，比其他國家同類型生產高70%，引致售價高企，市場佔有率持續下跌；加上金融海嘯，市場需求銳減，需求的周轉變化，汽車銷售比預期差距太大，一方面囤積，另一方面減產，關閉廠房，惡性循環下，漸入窘境，無法自救。

如今政府注資，是避免一下子有300萬人失業，又或因為是美國汽車品牌的情緒結？

昔日通用雪佛蘭的Corvette跑車、福特Mustang、佳士拿的K-car以及Caravan，全是知名品牌，希望將來不至於墮石墜落！奧巴馬的「Change」口號正是三大車廠要落實執行的指令。 專業教育培訓顧問 呂康

Editorial

Upgrading the fight against swine flu pandemic

The fight again the A/H1N1 human swine flu pandemic in Hong Kong reached a crucial stage yesterday.

Inside Hong Kong, a girl student of St Paul's Convent School (Secondary Section) in Causeway Bay was yesterday confirmed to have contracted the A/H1N1 virus and several of her schoolmates were also suspected to have been infected. The school has been closed for 14 days. The girl had not traveled overseas and the source of her infection remains unknown. At the same time, it was also confirmed yesterday that a man, who had also not traveled overseas, had caught the flu after attending a cocktail party on Friday.

He is thus the first case of "second-generation infection" in Hong Kong. It was found later that at the cocktail party that there was a confirmed patient who had been abroad.

Outside Hong Kong, Director General of the World Health Organization (WHO) Dr Margaret Chan Fung Fu-chun held a teleconference before dawn today with health officials from seven countries with large-scale human swine flu outbreaks - Mexico, the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, Australia and Japan - in preparation to upgrade the pandemic alert to the top Phase 6, that is, to declare a global pandemic.

In face of such tough circumstances at home and abroad, Chief Executive Donald Tsang Yam-kuen, who was attending The Pan-Pearl River Delta Regional Cooperation and Development Forum in Nanning city in Guangxi province, cut short the visit and returned to Hong Kong last night to oversee the upgrading of the anti-pandemic fight.

Now a community epidemic outbreak, an inevitable eventuality as the Health Bureau and specialists have repeatedly warned, has finally happened. The anti-pandemic frontlines in the SAR have moved from the airport and other border checkpoints into all communities in Hong Kong. The operational range has become much wider and the pandemic situation has become much more difficult to control. In these circumstances the SAR Government, health authorities and the vast majority of citizens must attune their minds and work-pace accordingly in order to be able to fight more effectively against the pandemic. For health authorities and the Steering Committee to deal with pandemic preparedness headed by the Chief Executive, the most important task right now is to keep abreast of the latest developments in the situations at home and abroad, as well as to release clear, accurate and timely information to the public.

The hesitance of the WHO to declare a global pandemic is due to worries that it might cause unnecessary panic in the general public.

As a matter of fact, (WHO's) pandemic Phase 6 or a global pandemic is a declaration based on geographical scope, that is, when there are over 1,000 confirmed cases in each of at least two countries on two continents, alert Phase 6 or full pandemic can be declared, which does not necessarily reflect the seriousness of the pandemic. In this regard the WHO is planning to create a further three sub-phases under Phase 6 to better indicate the gravity of a pandemic. Even when it keeps upgrading its alert, the WHO does not stand for imposing restrictive measures such as banning travels.

Therefore, even if the alert is raised to the highest level, it does not mean the arrival of Doomsday. As long as Hong Kong heightens its preparedness and take responsive measures, society will be safe. How to remind all citizens to maintain high vigilance without causing any panic in the population largely relies on how the Health Bureau does its job.

For most citizens it is the government's duty to lead the fight against a pandemic but it is a personal responsibility to avoid being infected. For this, it is fundamental for a person to take all necessary preventive measures during an outbreak, including getting enough rest, paying attention to hygiene when eating and drinking, avoiding non-essential visits to crowded places and maintaining good air circulation at home. In case one unfortunately catches the swine flu, one can be cured as long as he or she takes medical treatment in time.

Right now, while the financial tsunami has yet to blow over, the A/H1N1 human swine flu pandemic situation becomes more serious. For both the government and the citizens, the most important thing at present is to be united to fight against the pandemic. Only when the whole society unites as one can we overcome difficulties to ride out adversity and reduce to a minimum the effects of the pandemic on the economy, people's livelihood and society.

Up to date, Hong Kong has done an excellent job in border defence against the pandemic. The popularity of Secretary for Food and Health Dr. York Chow Yat-ngok has risen to the top among all major government officials. This shows the importance of public support to government work.

In fact, whether in coping with the financial tsunami or in fighting against the A/H1N1 flu pandemic, it is important to maintain social stability. It is counterproductive to the anti-pandemic fight to have big numbers of people gathering for street demonstrations and other assemblies in the midst of such a pandemic outbreak.

11 June 2009

Idiom: Keep / stay abreast of something - To stay informed about the most recent facts about a subject or situation. Examples: 1. I try to keep abreast of any developments. 2. It is almost impossible to keep abreast of all the latest developments in computing. 3. This new service helps doctors keep abreast of the newest drugs available. 4. Don't you think part of a prime minister's job is to keep abreast of world affairs? 5. Wherever I travelled, I could read Sally's blog to keep abreast of activities in our club.

通識記憶體 甲流病例破百 醫護人員中招

截至本港時間6月16日下午2時，世界衛生組織確認全球77個國家和地區共有35928宗H1N1甲型流感確診病例，包括死亡病例163宗。本港的甲流病例也繼續增加，截至6月17日，共錄得172宗，包括聯合醫院一名女護士，她是首位受感染的醫護人員。

隨着本地個案飆升，本港防疫工作進入新階段。6月10日本港出現首宗本地感染個案；6月12日新增的10宗確診個案中，7宗是由外地傳入；6月13日5宗病例中，4宗由外地輸入；而6月14日再增11宗確診個案中，其中3宗已證實為本地個案。

6月11日，本港確診首個本地感染H1N1甲型流感個案群組，聖保祿學校12名中學生染病。6月15日灣仔鄧肇堅維多利亞官立中學亦出現確診H1N1甲型流感個案，翌日該校開始停課兩周。

6月12日，政府立即推行新一輪防疫措施，除了全港小學、幼稚園開始停課兩周之外，更緊鑼密鼓訂購疫苗，安排為4類高危組別共200萬人免費注射。

本港現時儲備約有2000萬劑量的抗流感藥特敏福，特區政府將動用5000萬購買一批抗流感藥，以增加藥物儲備。