



中英社評



特區政府計劃每年吸引三萬五千名人才來港，三年間吸納逾十萬人才，充實香港人才庫，這個「搶人才」大計不可謂不進取。但求才是一回事，人才來不來是另一回事，連日來不少市民對此表達關心。其實，香港基礎好，更有背靠祖國、通聯世界的獨特優勢，只要為人才打造可以大展拳腳的環境，同時借鑒外地吸才經驗，做大梧桐樹，自然不愁沒有鳳凰來。

世界各地為了搶人才，各出奇謀，香港在這方面可以說是落後於人，但現在開始奮起直追，仍然來得及。戰國時期，燕昭王求才若渴，特別設立一座「黃金台」，作為人才來投的見面禮。消息傳開，各國人才紛至沓來，燕國因此強大。古代資訊不發達，「黃金台」旨在打廣告，顯示燕昭王有求才誠意，且出手大方，條件優裕。特區政府在今次施政報告中推出一系列吸引人才和企業的措施，效果如何且不論，起碼先聲奪人，展現了「香港歡迎你」的姿態。這樣的宣傳功夫要做到足，除了成立人才服務窗口，在十七個海外辦事處設立招商引才專組，特區政府還要利用各種平台以及官員出訪的機會，廣而告之，將聲勢造得越大越好。

良禽擇木而棲。吸引人才既要誠意，更要有實質性的「見面禮」，包括稅收優惠、創業配套、子女教育、入境政策等等。香港的底子很好，「自帶」光環，包括國際金融中心、自由市場、資訊發達、中西文化薈萃、交通網絡發達等。而香港最大也最獨特的優勢，在於中國因素。雖然香港本身市場細小，但香港背後是全球第二大經濟體的祖國，是十四億人口的消費大市場，僅中產人士就多達四億，超過美國人口。香港是國家與世界的中間橋樑和窗口，任何希望從中國發展分一杯羹的人士和企業，都不能不看重香港的地位。人才的任何一項成就，其效應都可以乘數放大。放眼全球，沒有一個城市能像香港這樣，擁有如此獨特的優勢。

香港和新加坡是一對老對手，常被拿來比較，在吸引人才政策方面亦不例外。最近有議論稱，香港的國際金融中心地位有被新加坡替代的可能。其實，這樣的說法如果不是出於無知，就是別有用心。新加坡前外長楊榮文近日指出，香港始終有中國內地作後盾，作為連結中外經濟的角色，非新加坡可匹敵。新加坡人有此清醒的認識，香港更不應該妄自菲薄。

隨着中共二十大勝利召開，國家邁入全面建設社會主義現代化、實現第二個百年目標的新征程。中華民族偉大復興的步伐不可阻擋，香港角色非但不會淡化，反而不斷得到強化。這是香港千載難逢的發展機遇，也提升了香港對高端人才、創科企業的吸引力。海外人才來了，可以帶動培養本地人才；本地經濟的餅做大了，各個階層都可以受惠，發展機遇更多，反過來增強香港對人才的磁吸力，實現良性循環。

香港的未來在於融入國家發展大局，主動對接粵港澳大灣區、「一帶一路」等國家戰略，這也是香港在全球搶人才、搶企業之戰中脫穎而出的最大底氣所在。李家超的施政報告以習近平總書記對香港「四點希望」為引領，契合中共二十大對香港的重要論述，大方向對頭，各項施政目標也很清晰，為良政善治開了個好局，香港市民有十足的理由對未來抱有信心。

發揮香港獨特優勢 全球搶才底氣十足

Bringing its unique advantage into play, Hong Kong enjoys the fullest confidence in competing for talents globally

The SAR Government plans to bring in 35,000 talents annually on average, or about 100,000 in three years, to expand Hong Kong's talent pool. Surely such an ambitious plan to compete for talents is quite aggressive. Yet planning to attract talents is one thing, whether they want to come is quite another. On this, quite a few members of the public have expressed their concerns. Actually, the foundation of Hong Kong is sound and it has the unique advantage of enjoying strong support of the Motherland and being closely connected to the world. As long as we can foster an environment for talented people to give full play to their abilities and skills and drawn on other places' experiences in attracting talents for the plane tree to grow up, we need not worry about it that no phoenix will come and **settle down**.

Various governments in the world are racking their brains to compete for talents. Hong Kong could be said to have fallen behind the trend. But we can still **make it** now if we exert ourselves to catch up. During the Warring States period, King Zhao of Yan sought talents like a thirsty person seeing water. He specially set up a Gold Platform to welcome talented people. When the news spread, talents from other states came to the Yan State one after another. Yan grew strong because of this. In ancient times, there was no advanced information technology, so setting up the Gold Platform was aimed at generating publicity to show that King Zhao was sincere in attracting talents and he was generous to offer good incentives. The Chief Executive's 2022 Policy Address unveils a series of measures targeted at attracting talents and enterprises. Putting aside the effectiveness of such measures, this at least signals an impressive start, outlining a "Hong Kong welcoming you" posture. Sufficient efforts must be devoted to such publicity. In addition to establishing the Talents Service Unit as well as Dedicated Teams for Attracting Businesses and Talents in the 17 overseas Economic and Trade Offices (ETOs) of the Government, the SAR Government should also make use of various platforms and opportunities of officials' overseas visits to make its policy known widely, the more widely known the better.

A fine fowl perches only on a fine tree. To attract talents, there must be substantial "greeting gifts" besides sincerity, such as tax incentives, helps for starting up businesses, education for their children and coordinating immigration police, etc. Hong Kong has a solid foundation. It carries haloes by itself such as an international financial hub, free market, a city with advanced information technology, a melting pot of Chinese and Western cultures, and having an advanced transport network. Yet Hong Kong's greatest and most unique advantage lies in the China factor. Although Hong Kong itself is a small market, the Motherland behind Hong Kong is the world's second largest economy, a big consumer market with a population over 1.4 billion. The Mainland's middle class population reaches 400 million, more than the total population of the United States. Hong Kong is a bridge and window between our country and the world. Any person or enterprise that hopes to take a share in China's development cannot overlook Hong Kong's status. The effect of any achievement by a talented person could easily multiply. Looking around the world, there is no city like Hong Kong that has such unique advantage.

Hong Kong and Singapore are an old pair of rivals, and comparison is often made between the two places. There is no exception when their policies to compete for talents are concerned. Some recent comments have it that Hong Kong's status as an international hub is likely to be replaced by Singapore. As a matter of fact, such a saying is uttered with ulterior motives if not out of ignorance. Former Singaporean Minister of Foreign Affairs George Yeo Yong-Boon recently pointed out that Hong Kong all along has the backing of Mainland China to perform the role as a link between the Chinese and foreign economies, for which Singapore is no match. Even a Singaporean has such clear understanding, there is no reason for Hong Kong to **sell itself short**.

With the successful convening of the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC), our country embarks on a new journey toward building a modern socialist country in all respects and achieving the second centenary goal. Nothing can ever **stand in the way of** the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation. Hong Kong's role will not be weakened but rather be steadily strengthened. For Hong Kong, this is a golden development opportunity **once in a blue moon**, which also enhances Hong Kong's attraction to high-end talents and enterprises in innovation technology. Introducing in talents from overseas can help foster local talented people. When the cake of domestic economy is made bigger, all social strata will benefit from it. More development opportunities will in turn enhance Hong Kong's attraction to talents to form a benign circle.

Hong Kong's future lies in its integration into the overall development of our country to proactively dovetail with the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area and with national strategies such as the Belt and Road Initiative. This also gives Hong Kong the greatest confidence that it will stand out in the global competition for talents and for enterprises. John Lee Ka-chiu's Policy Address is guided by General Secretary Xi Jinping's "four expectations" and tally with the important remarks on Hong Kong by the 20th National Congress of the CPC. The general orientation is correct and various policy objectives are very clear. This marks a good beginning for good governance. There are sufficient reasons for Hong Kong residents to maintain their confidence in the future.

WORDS AND USAGE

• **Settle down** (phrasal verb) –

To start living in a place where you intend to stay for a long time, usually with your partner. (定居，安頓下來)

Examples:

1. Eventually I'd like to settle down and have a family, but not yet.
2. As a southerner, he did not want to move north, fearing that he "might never settle down in the provinces".

• **Make it** (idiom) –

to succeed in a particular activity. (取得成功)

Examples:

1. You're brave and courageous. You can make it.
2. She made it in films when she was still a teenager.

• **Sell sb/oneself/sth short** (idiom) –

To undervalue someone, something, or oneself; to underestimate or underappreciate the good qualities of someone, something, or oneself. (小看，貶低)

Examples:

1. Don't sell yourself short – you've got the skills and the experience.
2. This is a very good school. Don't sell it short.

• **Stand in the way of sth/sb** (idiom) –

If you stand in the way of something or stand in a person's way, you prevent that thing from happening or prevent that person from doing something. (試圖阻止，力圖阻撓)

Examples:

1. The British government would not stand in the way of such a proposal.
2. You know I won't stand in your way if you want to apply for a job abroad.

• **Once in a blue moon** (idiom) –

Very rarely; almost never. (非常罕見，久久才有一次)

Examples:

1. My sister lives in Alaska, so I only see her once in a blue moon.
2. The earthquakes hits once in a blue moon in this part of the earth, we never felt it.



Mistakes are proof that you're trying



續FUN英語

有時候學生匆匆忙忙的寫文章或商業類寫作，眼明手快，沒有覆閱便匆匆交功課。
Miss Carol今集挑選八組學生常見犯錯的詞彙問題作解說。

1. As spoken on the phone.../ As discussed.../ As agreed ...

很多學生以為這個是慣用語，其實不論是面對面的對話還是在電話的談話，也是兩個人或以上的對話。Subject (I, you, we, they, he, she, it) 是需要的。

建議改成：As we discussed on the phone yesterday/ this morning...

2. We could care less OR We couldn't care less

中文翻譯為我們不在乎，說到我們可以少關心一個主題或是少關心一樣東西。

很多時候這個意思是我們根本不關心某一個話題所以並不在乎。例句：

The politician thinks we are interested in what he comments, but we couldn't care less what he says, to be honest.

3. First-come, first-serve

先到先得或是先到先接待的意思。很多同學以為這是一句成語，非也。

正確寫法應該是 First-come, first-served。

4. If worse comes to worse 就是如果發生最壞

的情況或是一個假設性的寫法。正確寫法是：If the worst comes to the worst.

例句：The typhoon is still strong. If the worst comes to the worst, we can stay home instead of going to school.

5. Chalk full?

發音幾乎一樣但詞彙寫法不同。應該是Chock-full Chock是舊式英語單詞，跟面頰 (cheek) 及滿到邊緣 (full to the brim) 一樣的意思。

Chock-full就是擠滿的或是充滿的意思。

例句：My newly-invented mushroom soup, chock-full of corn, bacon and porcini, was absolutely delicious.

6. 濫用literally

很多人以為literally可以在任何情況下使用或是一種修辭技巧。查實正確意思是 "actually", "Strictly speaking"

所以我們不能寫 Tom's stomach is literally exploding.

例句：Tom has a feeling that his stomach is about to burst; he literally gobbled 4 pizzas down!

7. A little OR little

A little 有正面意思，"little"有反面意思。

There is a little milk in the bottle.

樽內有少許牛奶。

強調是還有牛奶的。

There is little milk in the bottle.

樽內有少許牛奶。

強調是不夠牛奶了。

8. Millions of thanks and regards

很多學生甚至在職人士喜歡在電郵最後部分加上 thanks and regards / many thanks and regards, 甚至 millions of thanks and regards 作為敬後語。其實致謝是美好的事情，為什麼要躲在最後的部分。另外就是多謝什麼事情也應該交代清楚。

例句：Thank you for taking time to review my homework/contract/project plan.



Sometimes I like making mistakes, not those irrevocable ones for sure. We simply cannot learn anything from being perfect. That is why, sometimes, the most precious thing we can make is a mistake.