

社評 雙語道

# 市民捱貴豬 政府需關注

## Expensive Pork Prices Deserve Government's Attention

原文

今年以來本港豬肉批發價大跌四成以上，但豬肉零售價始終居高不下，供港活豬昨日每公斤批發價為20元，市場零售價卻高達108元。市場數據清楚顯示，全球豬肉價格明顯下跌，本港市民卻一直吃貴價豬肉，令人質疑本港豬肉零售價是否亦有加快減慢的不正常現象。豬肉是民生必需品，其供應和價格平穩關係市民切身利益，政府有責任密切關注，若發現有扭曲的市場行為，要立即加強監管，切實保障市民利益。

今年4月以來，國際生豬批發價格大幅下跌40%以上，國家發改委今年6月中下旬兩次發布生豬價格過度下跌預警。而且隨着非洲豬瘟疫情緩和，本港豬肉供應逐漸恢復，至今年8月，活豬拍賣平均價已經降至2,012元一擔，下跌43%。進入10月，豬肉拍賣價繼續下降，昨日的活豬拍賣平均價為1,130元一擔，相較今年1月驟降近七成。

與活豬拍賣價大幅下降不相稱的是，本港新鮮豬肉零售價跌幅緩慢，根據政府統計處數據，今年8月本港新鮮豬瘦肉及豬扒平均零售價，較今年1月數據分別下降10.6%及2.8%，與同期生豬拍賣價跌幅存在超過30個百分點的差距，豬肉批發價雖降低，但本港市民最終仍未能受惠。豬肉

批發價大跌，零售價卻幾乎不跌的現象，並不尋常。(第六屆)立法會議員葛珮帆指出，豬肉價格居高不下直接影響市民，認為競爭事務委員會或可介入，調查豬肉價格加快減慢情況。

本港汽油零售長期存在加快減慢問題，超市定價也被質疑有升無減，都引發社會強烈不滿。特區政府於2012年6月通過了《競爭條例》，立法禁止妨礙、限制或扭曲在香港的競爭行為，並設立競爭事務委員會及競爭事務審裁處控違反競爭法行為。2017年，競委會就伺服器採購及裝修工程兩度提告圍標案，法庭亦於2019年5月裁定14間公司違反《競爭條例》。目前本港豬肉批發價與零售價嚴重背離，政府有必要密切關注、調查，若發現有違反《競爭條例》的行為，應果斷執法，制止擾亂正常市場秩序和牟取暴利的經營行為。

豬肉供應及價格關係民生，民生無小事，特區政府不能放任豬肉供應及價格背離市場或自行調節。內地從2009年起，已建立防止生豬價格大幅波動的調控預案，保障供應和價格穩定。特區政府可借鑒內地經驗，發揮政府市場引導作用，切實解決好豬肉供應及價格穩定的民生問題。

(摘錄自香港《文匯報》社評 2021-10-20)



●豬肉批發價大跌，但豬肉零售價始終居高不下。圖為售賣新鮮豬肉的肉檔。

資料圖片

譯文

This year, the wholesale price of pork in Hong Kong has plunged by over 40 per cent, but the retail price of pork remains very high. The wholesale price of live pigs supplied to Hong Kong was reported to be \$20 per kilogram, but the market retail price was as high as \$108. Market data clearly shows that there is a significant decline in global pork prices. However, people in Hong Kong have been paying high prices for pork, and it costs doubt on whether the retail prices of pork in Hong Kong are shifting in an abnormal pattern in which they are quick to rise but slow to drop. Pork is a daily necessity. The stability of the supply and prices of pork is a matter affecting the interests of all people in Hong Kong. The Government is responsible for keeping a close watch on the pork market. If it discovers any acts that distort the market, it should immediately enhance regulation to safeguard the in-

terests of people in Hong Kong.

The international wholesale price of live pigs has fallen sharply by more than 40 per cent since this April. In mid to late June this year, the National Development and Reform Commission twice issued warnings for an excessive slump in the prices of live pigs. As the outbreak of African swine fever slowed down, the supply of pork to Hong Kong gradually resumed. As of this August, the average auction price of live pigs had dropped to \$2,012 per 100 catties, down 43 per cent, and the price continued to fall in October. Yesterday, the average auction price of live pigs was \$1,130 per 100 catties, down nearly 70 per cent compared to this January.

The drastic drop in the auction price of live pigs was disproportionate to the slow decline in the retail price of fresh pork in Hong Kong. According to the data from the Census and Statistics Department, compared to January this

year, the average retail prices of fresh lean pork and pork chop in Hong Kong were down 10.6 per cent and 2.8 per cent respectively in August. There was a 30 per cent shortfall compared to the level of decrease in the auction prices of live pigs during the same period, and so people in Hong Kong did not get to benefit from it even though there was a drop in the wholesale price of pork. It is unusual to see wholesale prices of pork tumble when retail prices remain nearly unchanged. Legislative Councillor Elizabeth Quat Pui-fan pointed out that the consistently high pork prices are having a direct impact on members of the public. She believed that the Competition Commission could intervene to probe into the reasons for pork prices to go up quickly but come down slowly.

Hong Kong has been facing a long-standing problem with its petrol pump prices which are quick to rise and slow to drop; prices of the city's su-

permarket products are also seen to be rising persistently without falling. All these have caused serious resentment in the society. In June 2012, Hong Kong enacted the Competition Ordinance to prohibit arrangements between market participants that prevent, restrict or distort competition in Hong Kong, and the Competition Commission and the Competition Tribunal were set up to monitor behaviours in violation of the competition law. In 2017, The Competition Commission initiated legal actions in two bid-rigging cases which concern respectively an organisation's procurement of a new server system and a renovation project at a public housing estate. In May 2019, the Competition Tribunal found 14 companies guilty of breaching the Competition Ordinance. Currently, the rise in the retail price of pork in Hong Kong is going seriously against the trend of decline in the wholesale price of pork. It is necessary for the Government to closely ob-

serve and investigate the situation. If it discovers any violations of the Competition Ordinance, it should take resolute law enforcement action to stop illegal market operation activities that are intended to disrupt market order to reap huge profits.

The supply and pricing of pork is an issue concerning the livelihood of Hong Kong people, and it is no trivial matter. The SAR Government should not take a laissez-faire approach to the issue and allow the supply and prices of pork to go against the market or simply let the market adjust itself. Since 2009, a regulatory plan has been developed in the Mainland to ease fluctuations of market prices of live pigs to stabilise the supply and prices of pork. The SAR Government may draw reference from the experience of the Mainland to guide the market and take concrete steps to improve the stability and prices of pork that concern the livelihood of people in the city.

## better未必是「更好」放大語境知分曉

### 恒 大譯站

隔星期一見報

說出來可能會有很多人不信，或至少甚感懷疑，但其實「better」真的不等於「更好」。不單是「better」，原來廣而言之，英文的比較級(可以用「more」來代表)，根本不應該用「更」字來表達。

我們先來看看詞典怎樣解釋。《Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary》對「more」的定義是「to a greater degree than something else; to a greater degree than usual」。至於「更」，字典的定義是「越甚、越發。表示加重一層的語氣」，從中其實已可看出一些端倪。

現在測試一下：「more advanced students」跟「更高階的學生」意思是否相同？「more advanced」即是比比較對象「advanced」，而「更高階」即「越發高階」、比「高階」加重一層，換句話說就是其比較對象「高階」，這裏的學生比其還要「更」「高階」。

#### 「更」有假定前設

如果仍然不明白的話，請試一試把「甲比乙英俊」跟「甲比乙更英俊」對比。我的學生通常一開始不明白「更」跟「more」有何不同，但一看到這兩句，絕大多數都能立刻感受到「甲比乙英俊」就是「甲 is more handsome than 乙」的意思，是個純粹的比較，只知道說話的人認為在「英俊程度」

上甲比乙高而已，至於兩人本身是否算得上英俊，則沒有評論，而「甲比乙更英俊」則有個基本「設定」，就是說話的人認為兩人都算得上英俊，不過甲比乙「更」英俊。請留意，這裏說的是說話者的看法，並非客觀標準。若牽涉客觀標準，則這類說法根本不能成立，因為世上並無公認的美醜標準。

萬一讀者閣下對上述兩句無感，不要緊，我設計了一個運用顯微鏡原理的方法去證明「更」字的用法：「李嘉誠比李兆基更富有」這句話，應該沒有人會感到不對(根據「福布斯富豪排行榜」，至少現時是事實)，但試想像一下，有乞丐甲乙二人，甲的身家為十五元，乙的身家為十元，恐怕沒有人會覺得「甲比乙更富有」這句話符合語感吧？

這是因為大家都會同意兩位李先生當然算得上富有，而甲乙二人則應該沒有人會覺得可以稱得上富有。其實，大家都隱約知道「更」的用法，只是平時感覺不到，於是我以最極端的兩個例子做對照，像顯微鏡那樣把語境放大，使其語氣顯露無遺，如此而已。如果這樣也說服不到閣下，那我也無計可施了。

「更」這個「加重一層的語氣」的用法，既然不等於英文的「more」，那是否中文獨有而英文沒有的表達方式呢？非也。「更」其實相當於「even more」的語氣。若英文原文雖然沒有「even」一字，但從上下文可以看出作者認為所比較的對象都具備比較較高的性質(例如美醜富貴)，那麼仍然可以用「更」來翻譯原文的比較級，因為「譯意不譯字」。順帶一提，「much more...」也不是「更……」，而是「……得多/很多」。

●池威霖  
香港恒生大學翻譯及外語學院講師

香港恒生大學  
THE HANG SENG UNIVERSITY  
OF HONG KONG

## 趣談英語

逢星期一見報

BRITISH COUNCIL

LearnEnglish Teens

### Writing skills practice: A recipe

Look at the recipe and do the exercises to practise and improve your writing skills.

#### Preparation

Match the words or phrase.

- |                   |             |                  |
|-------------------|-------------|------------------|
| 1. cut            | 2. boil     | 3. grill         |
| 4. cook           | 5. fry      | 6. wash up       |
| a. cozer / ferver | b. cozinhar | c. cortar        |
| d. fritar         | e. grelhar  | f. lavar a loica |



**My favourite dish - Peppercorn pasta**

**Ingredients**  
Peppercorn sauce:  
1 red onion  
2 red onions  
100 g peppercorn  
1 can (400 g) tomatoes  
1 cup water  
Olive oil  
Garlic  
Dregano  
50 g pasta per person

1. Cut the onion, red peppers and peppercorn.
2. Heat some olive oil in a pan and fry the onion, red peppers and peppercorn.
3. Add tomatoes, garlic, tomatoes and water and cook for 20 minutes.
4. Cook the pasta in a big pan of boiling water.
5. Serve the pasta with the peppercorn sauce. Delicious!

**Top Tips for writing**  
Use commas between a list of items in a sentence.  
When writing a recipe or instructions, use numbers to indicate the stages and use the base form of the verb (gerundive) to give instructions.

#### Discussion

What dishes can you cook? How often do you cook?

1. You need two red onions to make peppercorn pasta.  
True False
2. You need about 450g of tomatoes to make the sauce.  
True False
3. 450g of pasta is enough for only one person.  
True False
4. You should cut the onions, peppers and peppercorn before you fry them.  
True False

To find more English language activities visit [www.britishcouncil.org/learnenglish teens](http://www.britishcouncil.org/learnenglish teens)

© British Council 2020