

Name: _____ Class: _____ ()

Tuesday English News Report:

Broadcast Date: 25th October, 2016

*Observatory warns against 'fictitious' forecasts as Typhoon Haima edges closer to
Hong Kong*

Hong Kong (A) awoke to yet another typhoon standby signal No 1 on Thursday morning as Tropical Cyclone Haima **edged** within 800km of the city, with the possibility of the more serious strong wind signal No 3 being issued later in the day.

In the meantime, the Hong Kong Observatory (B) has issued a **rare** notice to the public not to believe "**fictitious**" weather information and forecasts (C) spreading on internet forums or social media. The **stern** reminder came on Thursday after a string of messages ****went viral** over mobile messaging network What'sApp.

******(of an image, video, piece of information, etc.) circulated rapidly and widely from one Internet user to another.

****Allegedly** originating from a "ship company", the messages claimed that there would be a No 9 signal at noon on Friday, with "70 per cent chance of a No 10 typhoon signal" at 2pm.

******(adverb) Used to convey that something is claimed to be the case or have taken place, although there is no proof. (synonym: supposedly)

Flooding and gale-force winds as Hong Kong (D) **braces** for Super Typhoon Haima.

"I would like to make clear to everyone that the Observatory does not help any industry or sectors conduct such detailed typhoon scheduling assessment. Such information is purely **fictitious**," senior scientific officer Lee Lap-shun said in a statement.

"When sharing information, make sure the source is actually reliable. For all the latest storm news, please keep an eye on updates from the Observatory."

The official standby signal (E) was issued at 8.20am on Thursday, after two days of torrential downpours and flash floods brought on by Typhoon Sarika. The rains on Wednesday caused serious road flooding and traffic congestion across Hong Kong.

Haima is expected to reach the Guangdong coast on Friday at the earliest and come within 100km of Hong Kong, the city's official weather forecaster added.

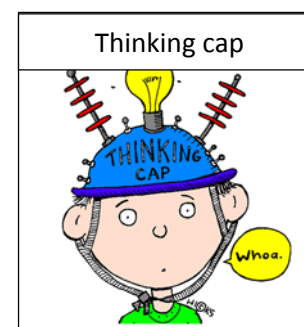
The weather in Hong Kong is expected to "**deteriorate** significantly", with frequent **squalls**, heavy rain and seas rough with **swells** as the rainbands associated with Haima **hover** over the territory.

"Members of the public should remain **vigilant** and take all precautions as early as possible," Kong said.

Adapted from the article in the South China Morning Post which appeared on Thursday, October 20th.

1. Questions to think about:

- We all want a day off school or work and hope one day the right weather warning will go up in the morning. However, should we really be hoping for this?
- Do you think the rain we are having in October is unusual?
- What are some issues related to natural disasters?



2. I: Vocabulary and understanding meaning

Match the meaning and/or synonym (words with a similar or the same meaning) to the words which have been highlighted in bold in the article.

Column A: Word from text	Letter	Column B: Meaning or synonym
1. edge(d) (v)		A: hang over
2. rare (adj)		B: get ready/prepare
3. fictitious (adj)		C: watchful
4. stern (adj)		D: the movement of the sea/big waves
5. brace(s) (v)		E: get closer to
6. deteriorate (v)		F: tough/strict
7. swells (n)		G: untrue/made up
8. squalls (n)		H: unusual
9. hover (v)		I: gusts of wind/strong winds
10. vigilant (adj)		J: get worse

II: Usage of vocabulary: The same word may have different meanings or be used in many different ways depending on its meaning and parts of speech. Use the correct form of the word from the list given in brackets to fill in the missing words of the sentences.

- (edge)** (a) There are often railings at cliff _____ to prevent people from falling. (b) Be careful when using that knife as the _____ is razor sharp! (c) The woman _____ away from the man because he made her feel uncomfortable. (d) The threat of terrorism made everyone feel on _____.
- (swell)** (a) Susan looked _____ in her new dress. (b) My ankle has really _____ up after falling over playing football. (c) The parents felt themselves _____ with pride when their son won the top scholarship. (d) Because of the huge _____ caused by the storm, the beaches have been closed to the public.
- (brace)** (a) Some people need to get _____ to help straighten their teeth. (b) The city is _____ itself for the oncoming storm as lots of rain is expected. (c) Some men wear _____ with their trousers, it can be a fashion statement, or to help hold up their trousers. (d) When the phone call came, Tom _____ himself for the bad news knowing his mum had been very sick. (e) Susan has to wear a neck _____ because of whiplash to her neck in the accident.
- (rare)** (a) I _____ take a day off work as I am hardly ever sick. (b) It is _____ to have typhoons in October in Hong Kong. (c) Some people are willing to pay a lot of money for _____ objects. (d) When I order steak at a restaurant, I always ask for well-done, not _____ as I don't like eating blood red meat. (e) Rain is a _____ in the desert.

Challenge of the week: (1) Tense Buster: Look at the capital letters (A) – (E) in the article. What tenses are being used?

(2) **Weather Words Fun:** Come to the English Corner today to enjoy this week's weather words vocab challenge. Example: Fill in the missing word: Stratus, cirrus, cumulus and nimbus are types of _____.

PRIZES & MORE PRIZES to be won!