

English butler leads China's latest cultural revolution

Teacher's notes

1 Lead-in

Ask students to look at the two definitions and then, working in pairs, discuss what the possible link is between the two. Monitor and then elicit a few of the ideas. Write these up on the board but do not comment at this stage (you might want to explain to the students that they will check their ideas in the next stage).

Then ask the students to match the words in the list to *The Cultural Revolution* and *butler*. If you can, hand out English-English dictionaries for the students to use for words they do not know in this activity.

Answers

The Cultural Revolution – class traitor; state; communist

butler – etiquette; hotels; luxury; service industry

2 Reading 1

Tell students to read the opening sentence from the newspaper article and check their predictions from the first activity in the Lead-in stage. Then discuss as a class.

Answer

Chinese tourist chiefs and hotel managers are getting help / advice from an English butler.

Next, ask the students to work in pairs or small groups and discuss what they think the rest of the article will say. Set a short time limit for this (five minutes should be enough) and then elicit a few ideas to write up on the board.

Note: Make sure your students don't try and read the article at this stage.

Finally, ask the students to read through the article and check their ideas. After they have read the article discuss whether their predictions were correct or not.

Note: Be careful not to explain new vocabulary at this stage, or let students use dictionaries.

Explain that they don't need to understand every word and that later on they will look more closely at the vocabulary.

3 Reading 2

Ask the students to read through the text again and to explain the significance of each number and decide whether the eight sentences are true (T) or false (F).

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Answers

1974 – The year Robert Watson entered service / became a butler.

2008 – The year of the Beijing Olympics in China.

160,000 – The amount in \$US that the top manservants (butlers) can earn in a year.

3,500 to 10,000 – The amount (range) in \$US that a one-week course with Robert Watson can cost.

2020 – The year by which China will become the World's leading tourist destination.

460 billion – The amount of income in \$US that this tourism will generate.

25 – The age of Frankle Guo a reception manager.

Note: If your students find this task difficult, jumble up the answers and write them up on the board and ask students to match the answers to the correct numbers.

Answers

a) T b) F – he used to c) F – he isn't cheap d) T e) T f) F g) T h) T

4 Vocabulary in context

Ask the students to find the words in the text and choose the correct meaning.

Answers

1) a 2) b 3) a 4) b 5) a 6) a 7) a 8) b 9) b 10) a

5 Follow-up

Ask students to read the four opinions / statements and to decide whether they agree or disagree with each one. Put the students in small groups and get them to discuss their opinions. Ask a few students to report back to the class on their group discussions.

Worksheet & Tasks written by Adrian Tennant.