

ARTICLE 23 CONSULTATION DOCUMENT CORRECTION CONTEST

For Article 23 Copy
<http://www.info.gov.hk/sb>

至尊英文擂台挑戰賽

English Society
Maria College

Here, we are concerned only with the misuse of English, not about the arguable contents of Article 23. This Paper has made English-speaking people laugh themselves sick because of its strange, awkward and mistake-laden writing. But local people roar themselves hoarse when they have got to read the writers' mind only through conjecture, intuition and even bias.

This abuse of English by the writers is pivotal in the controversy. Sometimes, they wrote the opposite of what they intended, and their errors are quite productive – more than the number of the pages.

AIMS

1. To save the SAR's face.
2. To show the importance of correct English. (Truth will out, anger will subside.)
3. To encourage the participation of individuals in response to the campaign of raising English standard.
4. To **openly** invite the participation of all universities, HKCAA (香港學術評審局), and SCOLAR (語文教育及研究常務委員會). They are all supposed to be role models of correct English users so that common people may look up to them as benchmarks and so that this may also tell the world that our Chief Executive's 55 billion budget for education per year is having a good result.
5. To offer English language experts a chance to shine.

AWARDS

Awards for entries are related to the degree of difficulty:

An easy one gets HK\$500; a hard one, HK\$1,000; a harder one, HK\$2,000; and the hardest, HK\$3,000. (\$200 for one duplicate correction.) Of similar answers the most comprehensive one is the winner, but equally comprehensive corrections to a mistake will share the award among them equally, and the decision of the English Society will be final. Here is an example of an easy one:

'The sovereignty and security of the state is protected.' (Page 3, 1.5, line 4.)

Disagreement of subject and verb – any elementary grammar book.

Come your support, Article 23 will lend itself to being made a presentable document for Hong Kong.

Types of Mistakes: Articles, punctuation, disagreements, ambiguities, misplaced modifiers, detached phrases and clauses, grammatical mistakes, wooliness, opaque meanings, stylistic errors, sense faults, etc.

Entry Requirement: Open to the world. No limit to the number of one's entries.

Address: Entries with contestants' or institutions' phone and fax number can be sent to the English Society, Kowloon Central P.O. Box 70395 or by fax at 2387-6294 or by E-mail: kcschool@navigator.com before March 31, 2003.

Announcement of Winners: Before May 31, 2003.

Note: An entry is judged on its writing to the point, and its argument should be supported by authoritative sources.