

Character Builder 您好嗎？

The basic unit of the Chinese language is the *zi* (字), i.e. a Chinese word. Each *zi* has a written form (called a character, made up of strokes), a sound (made up of consonant and vowel) and a meaning (or multiple meanings). When we speak or write Chinese, we string *zi* together to form terms, phrases and sentences.

This week: Words about Victory Harbour

景

Pronunciation: *jing* (Putonghua, 3rd tone), *ging* (Cantonese 2nd tone)
Basic meaning: vista, view, scenery

景 = 景色 (*jing se* = view~colour) = 景觀 (*jing guan* = view~sight) = view: 海景 (*hai jing* = sea~view), 山景 (*shan jing* = mountain/hill~view). 景物 (*jing wu* = view~things) = visible landscape/things.

景點 (*jing dian* = view~spot) = tourist spots. 好風景 (*hao feng jing* = good~wind~view) means picturesque landscape. 風景畫 (*feng jing hua* = wind~view~drawing/painting) = landscape painting. 實景拍攝 (*shi jing pai she* = real~view~shoot~take) = filming on site.

景象 (*jing xiang* = view~image) means good/bad social scene. 景氣 (*jing qi* = view~breath/energy) = economic wellness, 不景氣 (*bu jing qi* = no~view~breath/energy) = economy slowing down. 良辰美景 (*liang chen mei jing* = good~hour~lovely~scenery) is time for romance.

by Diana Yue