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 = 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