

A Personal Letter

4B Ng Sin Ting

Dear Harry,

How are you? I felt excited when I heard that you are coming to Hong Kong soon. I think you are nervous about this trip because you have asked me many questions, right? Let me be your helping hand. Don't be nervous!

You asked me about the weather in Hong Kong. Let me tell you about it. In August, it is summer time in Hong Kong. It is very hot here. The maximum temperature may go up to 36°C. Although the weather is hot, the air conditioning in cinemas and shopping centres is always strong. You'd better bring a jacket with you when you visit these places. Also, when you stay in the street, you may feel hot sometimes. So, you should bring some short-sleeved T-shirts with you.

Also, you told me that you wanted to buy inexpensive clothes and sportswear. Let me recommend some places where you can buy these things. For inexpensive clothes, you may go to Mongkok. You can shop along Fa Yuen Street and Tung Choi Street. The clothes there are fashionable and inexpensive.

In addition, you may go shopping in New Town Plaza which is in Shatin. It's spacious and it's got all the shops that you like, for example, sportswear shops. There's even a whole level where you can find shops for teenagers.

You also asked me about the places where you could eat local food in Hong Kong. I would like to recommend you go to 'cha chaan tengs' for a typical breakfast because it is a part of Hong Kong culture. Their food is good value for money and their service is efficient. Be sure to sample a local breakfast there – a bowl of 'rickshaw' noodles – noodles with a choice of toppings, such as vegetables, tofu or chicken wings. Moreover, I would recommend you go for stall food in Mongkok as well. Try out a few local snacks like fish balls, egg puffs or deep-fried snacks.

When you are in our city, there are some Chinese manners you have to pay attention to. When you pick up food from serving dishes, you should take the piece of food nearest to you. When you are holding chopsticks, don't wave your chopsticks or point them at people. When you eat soup, don't slurp from the bowl. These are only a few suggestions for your reference.

Finally, you are concerned about other manners. When you meet new friends, you should shake hands with them or give them a nod and a smile. Also, when you visit someone, don't give them a clock as a gift because clocks are associated with funerals and death. Furthermore, when someone gives you a present, don't open the present immediately. You should say thank you and open the present at home.

Well, I hope my suggestions will help. If you have other concerns, please write to me. Write soon.

Love,
Sam

Teacher's Feedback : You have given quite a lot of information to Harry. Maybe you could use a more personal and friendly tone to tell him what he should pay special attention to when he comes to Hong Kong. (Miss Chan Mei Ling)