



Hong Kong is now the most crowded place on earth But 160 years ago it was very different In 1845 only 24,000 people lived in Hong Kong and there were only 700 houses.

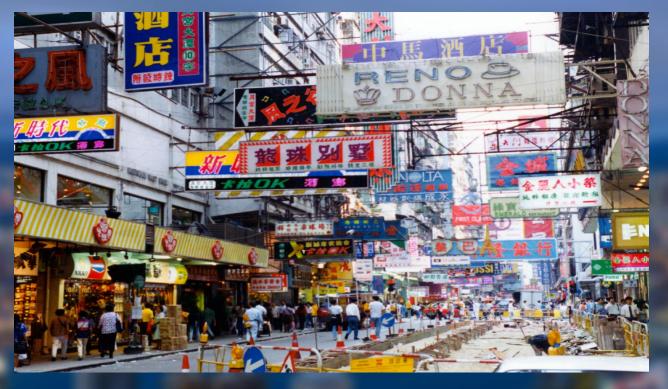
Life was hard, and every summer hundreds of people died of malaria

(Now there is no malaria in Hong Kong.)



Hong Kong looked very different then farmers rode cows in the center of the town and ducks ran about in the streets.

Now there are nearly seven million people in Hong Kong and the government builds 40,000 houses every year.



These days people drive cars, taxis and buses in the town center but they never ride cows

In 1844 a traveler complained that his small wet bedroom in Hong Kong was more expensive than a first-class hotel in London

Hong Kong is still one of the most expensive places in the world Sadly some things never change