

## Theme 3: Pollution

### Situation 1: Noise Pollution

There is a conflict between two sets of neighbours living in the same building. One set is noisy and the other is very quiet. The quiet ones are very frustrated and angry about the constant noise created by their neighbours. They would like their noisy neighbours to be quiet and more considerate.

**Characters:** Mr Cheng                      Mrs Cheng                      Mr Leung                      Mrs Leung

**Notes:** Mr and Mrs Cheng are the quiet couple. Mr and Mrs Leung are their noisy neighbours. Both Mr and Mrs Cheng and Mr and Mrs Leung are about 50 years old.

### SCRIPT

*Scene One: In the Cheng's flat.*

**Mr Cheng:** I can hear them again! Why do we live next door to the noisiest people in Hong Kong?

**Mrs Cheng:** I know... last week Mrs Leung was playing mahjong until 2:30am with her friends! I didn't get to sleep until 3:30 in the morning.

**Mr Cheng:** I have had enough of these selfish people and their behaviour. Let's go and tell them to stop making so much noise.

**Mrs Cheng:** What...you mean now? I am not prepared.

**Mr Cheng:** Ask Mrs Leung why she plays mahjong in the early hours of the morning, then.

**Mrs Cheng:** All right, all right.

*Scene Two: Outside the Leung's flat.*

**Mrs Cheng:** You do it! Go on, you knock on their door. However, the music they are playing is so loud. So they may not hear you;

**Mr Cheng:** All right, all right. . .

**Mr Leung:** Yes? Oh...you are Mr and Mrs Cheng aren't you?

**Mrs Cheng:** Yes, that's right. We want to talk to you and your wife.

**Mr Leung:** Let me just call her. . . my wife is doing her exercises and she likes to dance to music, you see. Alison. . . ALISON. . . ALISON! COME HERE! OUR NEIGHBOURS ARE HERE!

**Mrs Leung:** I heard you the first time! No need to shout, you know. Oh, Mr and Mrs Cheng, how nice to meet you.

**Mr Cheng:** Actually, Mr and Mrs Leung, we want to talk to you about something. My wife and I are quiet people and you are noisy people. In fact, you are always noisy. You are disturbing us. We would like you to be quieter.

**Mrs Leung:** WHAT! My husband and I are quite normal and only make a normal amount of noise. How rude of you to say so.

**Mrs Cheng:** How dare you be so rude to my husband! He is not the one causing the problem! At least my husband doesn't sound like an elephant when he is doing his exercises!

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- Mrs Leung:** Now you are the rude one! Who do you think you are? I don't sound like an elephant, either!
- Mr Cheng:** Now, ladies, would you both calm down. The fact, Mr and Mrs Leung, is that you are often quite noisy. You are noisy from early in the morning until late at night. We often hear you shouting. We also hear loud music and the sound of mahjong.
- Mrs Cheng:** Both my husband and I have to go to work early in the morning. We need plenty of sleep.
- Mr Leung:** I understand that. But my wife and I are busy, active people. We like to enjoy ourselves. We also like to see our friends.
- Mr Cheng:** There is no reason why your activities should disturb us. We do not disturb you, after all.
- Mrs Leung:** That's because you are quite boring. At least we have interesting lives.
- Mrs Cheng:** Not everyone is interested in hearing what you do. . . especially when it involves loud noise! I want you to stop playing mahjong late at night!
- Mr Leung:** My wife enjoys mahjong. It is a fun, harmless hobby.
- Mrs Cheng:** It is not a good hobby when you are upsetting other people.
- Mr Cheng:** Look, all we are saying is that you must stop being so noisy. I am sure other people in our building feel the same.
- Mrs Leung:** Well, no one else has said anything to us. You are the only people to complain.
- Mrs Cheng:** It doesn't matter if we are the only people to complain. However, you should consider our feelings. We all have to live together.
- Mr Leung:** Well, you should respect our right to do what we want in our own home!
- Mr Cheng:** You people really are terrible! We cannot talk to you. From now on, we will be just as noisy as you are. That will teach you a lesson.
- Mrs Leung:** We don't care. We will be TWICE as noisy as you, wait and see!