

The priceless Ming jar used as an umbrella stand

LINE	SPEAKER	TRANSCRIPT	NOTES
1	MA	The owner always thought that this was an 18 th century jar; just a decorative object.	just [adv.] = no more than (it was not considered valuable)
2	MA	It was in the hall being used as an umbrella stand	
3	MA	I got in touch with the owner and she agreed to send the jar to London to be inspected in person.	inf.: <i>get in touch</i> = contacted
4	MA	Once it arrived, we were absolutely speechless and the more we studied it, the better it got.	comparative structure: 'the more we studied it, the better it got'
5	MA	Day by day we were getting more and more excited and then we realised we were actually handling an incredibly important piece of Chinese porcelain from the Ming Dynasty	structure to build drama: <i>day by day</i> and <i>more and more</i>
6	MA	More specifically from the reign of the Xuande Emperor who reigned from 1426 to 1435.	
7	CFT	It flows very extremely well and the body actually wraps all the way around looking at its tail.	adverb use: she corrects herself to find a more emphatic adverb.
8	CFT	The five claw dragon is a symbol of the Emperor whilst three claw dragons are a symbol of the prince.	whilst [Brit.] = while
9	CFT	So, as a five claw dragon this jar would have been made for a Xuande Emperor	
10	CFT	What is also typical about the Xuande period is the cross mark across some of the vessels because it's very difficult to fire something so massive without having it collapse or explode in the kiln.	fire: bake or dry potter in a kiln
11	CFT	This jar, when it was fired, it would have been held on a setter that has a cross.	



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12	CFT	It is quite unusual because a lot of people who are copying it do not see bases or do not see the other side of what is not illustrated in a catalogue.	use of present tense are : infers fakes are being produced?
13	CFT	And what is also extraordinary about this jar is the four, the four pixiu , the four mythical beast heads right at the top here on its shoulder.	pixiu : unknown specialist word (this word may be incorrect)
14	MA	The four character mark reads [XXXX] which basically means made under the reign of the Xuande Emperor.	collocation: <i>under the reign</i>
15	MA	Porcelain created during that period is regarded amongst connoisseurs, amongst one of the finest ever made in China.	amongst [Brit.] = among
16	MA	It is an incredibly expensive umbrella stand but this is the beauty of Chinese art.	the beauty of : the best aspect or advantage of something
17	MA	Unless you have a little understanding of it you can walk it and not realise that it's something incredibly important.	use of little : understatement

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SPEAKERS	
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