



香港中國婦女會馮堯敬紀念中學



讀書破萬卷
下筆如有神

杜甫



博鳴集

二零一八

香港中國婦女會馮堯敬紀念中學

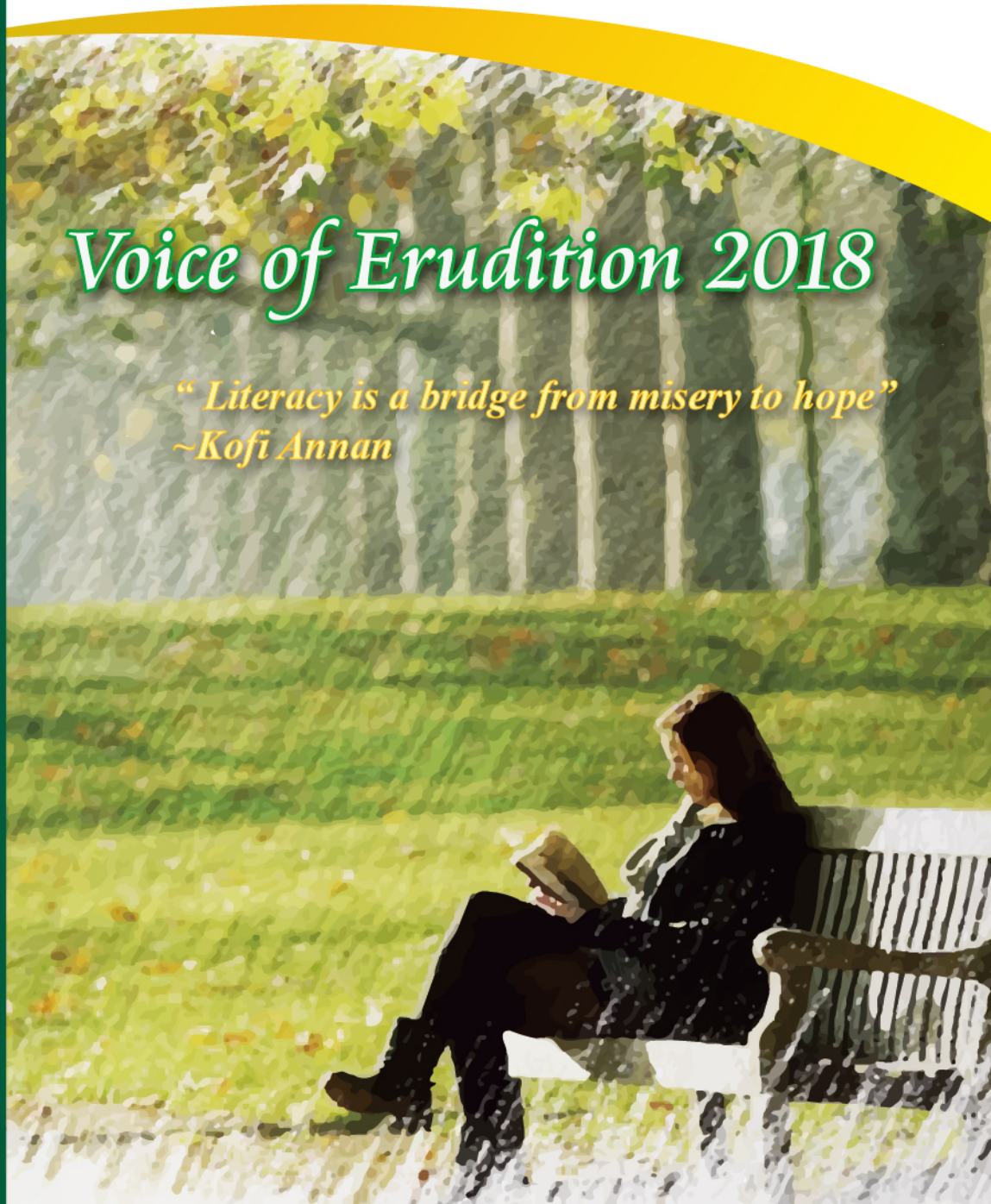
二零一八



HKCWC Fung Yiu King Memorial Secondary School

Voice of Erudition 2018

"Literacy is a bridge from misery to hope"
~Kofi Annan



【校長的話】

「執筆忘字」、「詞窮」、「詞不達意」、「取材俗套」……各位同學，每當上寫作課時，你可曾為寫文章而苦惱呢？

「讀書破萬卷，下筆如有神」，這兩句詩出自唐代著名詩人杜甫，其意思是說：「讀盡萬卷書，那麼寫文章時就會才思泉湧，就像有神仙相助一樣。」

世上，何真有神仙相助？其實，讀是寫的基礎，寫是讀的延伸，讀是內在吸收，寫是外在釋放。即使是寫同一個題目的文章，有的人能把文章寫得豐富而深刻，易懂而感人；有的人則把文章寫得狹隘而膚淺，難懂而病句連連。這是由於見識和思想的不同所造成的。見識是否廣博、思想是否深刻，則是由讀書的多寡和人生閱歷的差異所決定的。

古人說：「凡操千曲而後曉聲，觀百劍而後識器。」初學表演的人常要模仿他人，甚至亦步亦趨；模仿多了，技巧就會純熟自如，佳者還要獨成一派，比師者更高一籌。同理，學寫文章也必須從多讀文章開始。

同學，不要再猶疑了！就由今天起，「悅」讀書籍，「樂」寫文章吧！

校長
孫莉華博士

《博鳴》

- 「博」 意為博學、博聞的意思，巧附本校校訓「博學篤志」之意。寄寓同學所聞所寫內容淵博，文件涵蓋，達至多元化。
- 「鳴」 代表同學所思、所言。如果只能博聞而不能言，豈不是可惜至極？
- 「博鳴」 是為勸勉同學能多閱讀，廣博知識；多寫作，敢於言盡所聞所思。

范健儀（第十七屆畢業生）

【編者的話】

不經不覺，又到了豐收的日子！這一個學年，你作了哪幾篇文章？寫了哪幾篇隨筆？翻開《博鳴集》，有否看見自己的作品？

今年，又喜見更多陌生的名字，意味著有更多具寫作潛質的同學出現。《懷想天空》一欄，同學取材新穎，立意甚佳。《花的聯想》，擬人手法運用生動，彷彿帶你進入一個童話的國度；《我的心頭好》、《久違的鄉間》、《當我想起你》和《足印》，真情流露，感人殊深；《深夜隨想》佈局新穎，趣味雋永。《馮子拾趣三首》，同學以詩記述學校旅行日的所見所感，輕鬆有趣，餘味無窮。

《議論縱橫》，是同學表達己見的園地。《我最欣賞的格言》，內容簡切宛要，頗有見地；《改善社會歧視弱勢社群風氣的看法》、《談選擇》及《先敬人，後敬羅衣》又引發我們對社會問題的反思。最後，《休學年》闡述詳明，筆調暢達。

《敘事寫人》一欄，同學記事井然有條，寫景觀察入微。《勝利的滋味》，取材與父親的經歷，情致悠然；《上學途中》，寫景如畫，鼓勵同學迎接新的挑戰，立意積極；《觸景傷情的旅行日》及《回鄉》語言質樸自然，餘味無窮，流露點點感傷；《時間的碎片》，又令人反思人生的意義；《蕃薯》和《果實》，用辭優美，扣人心弦。

讀畢《博鳴集》，發現同學「字字皆精闢；句句皆用心」，期待明年有更多優秀的作品！

中文科副主任

韓思麗老師

編輯委員會

顧問：孫莉華博士
成員：梁鳳儀老師、龐名儀老師、韓思麗老師、何詩詠老師、
嚴甫明老師、陳劍老師
鳴謝：全體中文科老師

【序】

寫作之樂，從何談起？

思前想後，追溯至小學時的「小練筆」。透過文字，抒發與同窗的打鬧，表達對師長的敬佩，歌頌對父母的感恩，字字幼嫩，卻是情真意切！

踏入中學階段，人大了，包袱好像也沉重了，然而，喜歡用文字記下所思所感的心思從未改變。

天下間的中文老師好像也有這個特點——嘮嘮叨叨！但他們對我的叮嚀，造就了我對語文的興趣、對文字的敏銳、對人文精神的認同。

關於寫作，言猶在耳的是三大要訣：

- 一、親歷親見
- 二、情感自然真摯
- 三、力求創新

記得有一回，寫了一篇「二十年後的我」。從題目可見發揮空間甚大，該寫甚麼？如何寫？怎樣寫？腦海千軍萬馬，萬頭攢動，未經思慮，下筆洋洋灑灑。提交時還自鳴得意，想必傲視同儕。怎料，發作文的時候，老師依舊讚揚表現優秀者，只是「他」，並不是我！細看老師的評語，斗大的字寫著「你『作』得太大了！」

就是這一次，我明白到「創作」與「親歷親見」的平衡。在寫作路上，上了寶貴的一課！

中文科主任

梁鳳儀老師

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懷
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花的聯想

朱俊尚 中一

早上，我替媽媽到市場買菜。走到路邊，我看見一家花店，花店裏的花爭麗鬥艷。我禁不住停下腳步，靜靜的欣賞。不知不覺，我被陶醉了，腦海裏浮想聯翩。

此時此刻，我的背部好像插上了一對翅膀，化成會飛的精靈，飛向花的世界。這裏是蝴蝶蜜蜂經常來的地方，蜜蜂在採蜜，蝴蝶自由自在地在花叢中飛舞。突然，一陣沁人肺腑的香氣迎面撲來。我立刻順着香氣飛了過去，原來是百花們和蝴蝶蜜蜂在舉行聯歡會呢！舞台上，清香撲鼻的桂花，隨風搖曳的鬱金香，紅艷艷的玫瑰……這些大自然的精靈，都聚首一堂，真是一道亮麗的风景啊！我在百花叢中穿行着，一會兒和桂花竊竊私語；一會兒和玫瑰高聲談笑；一會兒和蝴蝶蜜蜂嬉耍打鬧。

聯歡會開始了，蜜蜂站在舞台上，對着百花仙子們鞠了一躬，並激動地說：「這不是我們全部的功勞，我也感謝你們辛勤地勞動，才有今天的成果。」聽着牠們那親切的話語，我都為之感動。

「小朋友，你想要什麼花呀？」賣花的阿姨微笑地向我走來。我立刻回過神來，笑了笑便離開，繼續走向菜市場的路。

我的心頭好

林慧冰 中二

小時候，我跟隨外公和外婆在鄉居生活。

某一年的冬天，天氣特別寒冷，我苦苦哀求外公給我買了一對半指手套。這手套是棉織的，黑紅相間，有點像美國漫畫的超級英雄——「蜘蛛俠」的手套。那時候，我得到它已心滿意足、雀躍萬分。我走到哪兒都帶着它，即使天氣回暖，浸了一手的汗，我也不願把它脫下，向每個人展示自己的新手套，炫耀一番，仿佛國王讓民眾膜拜自己的新衣。

但是，裸露在外的指尖總不免被利刃般的寒風刮出一道道的裂痕。外婆想再縫一塊布來保護我的手指，我卻怎也不願意，還刻意搗亂，剪斷了棉線。長大後，我回想起這事來，覺得自己實在是太不應該了！

現在，它早已裝不下我的雙手，但我仍保留着它，因它還盛載着我那遠去的快樂童年，也提醒我要多多關心外公和外婆。



久違的鄉間

劉昕 中四

車輛壓過雨後濕漉漉的泥土，輕紗似的白霧環繞着起伏的遠山。太陽還未升起，天地間早已煥發着生機。我趴在車窗邊，任由那濕潤的輕風拍打我的臉頰。南方的早春便是如此，清新又不失韻味。

在城市生活久了，來到這遠離紛擾的鄉間，一時竟難以適應。這裏沒有大城市的喧囂，沒有人們的抱怨聲，更沒有灰濛濛的天空。

太陽完全出來了，那薄薄的如輕紗般的霧慢慢褪去。噢，那幾縷薄霧似乎貪戀着山巒的雄美，久久不願離去。我立在河邊，聽着耳邊汨汨的流水聲，敲散了纏繞許久的愁緒。腳邊，幾條魚兒在水中歡樂地翻騰，濺起陣陣水花。過往的許多回憶，也慢慢湧上心頭。

向着田野深處走去，似乎離我逼切地想要尋找的久違感覺更近了一步。小路邊的野草還沾着雨水，向外伸展着的褲腳早已被雨水沾濕。鞋子上也被星星點點的泥土佔領着，卻絲毫不影響我的心情。終於，眼前出現了一小塊寶地了——小小的草地上，點綴着各式各樣的野花。可能是下過雨的緣故，色彩更鮮麗了，像火、像霞、像雪……置身在這樣充滿意境的環境裏，身體和精神也得到了滿足，還是那種久違的感覺，一點沒變。

早春的天氣也十分不穩定，上一秒還是晴空萬里，下一秒卻雷聲陣陣。當然，這並不會影響我的心情。我把鼻尖抵在窗戶上，看着那一滴一滴雨點順着屋簷滑落，偶爾傳來幾聲沉悶的雷聲。當然，我也享受其中。

在這裏，沒有節奏急逼的生活，只有悠閒自得，沒有束縛。

我們本因自然而生，偶爾也應遠離世俗，淡泊名利，回歸本心。

深夜隨想

劉妍 中四

夜深人靜，僻靜的街道兩旁，一排排商店緊閉着卷閘門，昏暗的燈光撒在招牌上。偶爾從拐角竄出幾隻野貓，一雙綠色的瞳孔似乎能將你內心的想法一覽無遺。

啪嗒一聲，我朝那隻野貓踢出一塊石頭，不偏不倚地砸中了路邊的垃圾箱。牠躲開了，瞪了我一眼，一個飛躍，在我眼前消失不見了。

我裹緊了身上的大衣，拉低帽檐，悄悄地走向我的目標。

忘了介紹，我是一位連環偷竊犯，這該是我第五次出手了，作為一個連環案件的犯人，自然不會愚蠢到在家附近出手，更不會出現在車水馬龍的鬧市。

此刻，我所在的地方，是老城區內一條極為僻靜的街道，商舖在下午六時半打烊。周圍沒有監控錄



像，商鋪裏也沒有報警器。雖說商鋪的規模不大，值錢的東西也不多，但也足夠讓我過一把癮。

確認四下無人後，我從衣袋裏掏出撬鎖工具。老城區的鎖大多已老化生鏽，戴着厚厚的手套使我的行動變得更加笨拙。待我撬開鏽漬斑斑的鎖時，額頭上早已佈滿細密的汗珠。我沒有多作停留。

拉開笨重的卷閘門，鋪內的擺設完全在我的預料之內。一間不大的士多，貨架上零零散散地放着一些生活用品及零食。我轉了幾圈，順手在貨架上拿走一包餅乾和一瓶汽水後，戴好帽子，裹緊大衣，拉上卷閘，回歸在夜色之中。

深夜的老城區安靜得可怕，我不禁打了個冷顫。身後似乎有一陣窸窣窸窣的腳步聲，時遠時近。我加快腳步，他跟着加快，我稍作停留，他也靜止不動。我開始冒冷汗，腦中閃過一個念頭，又很快打消。我扯了扯嘴角，自己每次出手的地點都是隨機，毫無規律可循。思索間，身後的人靠得更近了。正想大步走開，一隻手已悄然搭上我肩頭。

「先生，您好，我們正調查一宗連環盜竊案，疑犯已在附近出手，希望您能配合調查……」

天網恢恢，疏而不漏。

當我想起你

劉卓峰

中五

坐在家中的沙發，陽光從窗外映落在我的身旁。當我正想走到窗邊拉下窗簾的時候，看見那木製的狗窩，狗窩的頂端刻着「小白」的名字，裏頭滿佈狗的毛髮。可是，狗窩裏卻欠了一位主角。

九月十日，我永遠也不會忘記這一天。這一天是「小白」的葬禮，大人如火如荼地進行着一切繁複的禮節。嚴肅的氣氛，使我的心情由悲傷變得麻木，即便回憶起以往與「小白」的愉快時光，今天也仿佛隨牠化成了隨風散落的灰燼。在禮堂中，我們悲傷的表情與牠甜美的笑容顯得格格不入。棺木與牠一同被送進那不能夠逆行的運輸帶上，不是再見，而是永別——我多麼想制止大人，不要按那一個按鈕，但是我的喉嚨就像被壓着一樣，不能說出聲來，唯有眼巴巴地看着那屍體放進燒爐，然後「啪」的一聲，過去的現實化為灰燼。

還記得從前，我與你一起在沙灘狂奔，一起在海中游泳，你那引人發笑的「狗仔式」，像很辛苦的追着我。累的時候，



你還躺在我的大腿上，尖尖的耳朵緊貼在我的大腿，一邊睡覺，一邊留意着四周的聲音。你的眼睛半開半合，當我稍有擺動的時候，你迅速睜開了眼睛，看着我，我倆互相對望，你又閉上眼睛，又繼續你的夢。可惜，這些已經成為往事，就算我多努力也不能挽回舊日的美好時光。

還記得，你生病的時候，我不眠不休地照顧你。當我遞上食物的時候，你總會輕聲地吠叫。雖然我不知道你的內心世界，但是你的回應卻令我暖上心頭。

可惜，世間好物不堅牢，彩雲易散琉璃脆。珍貴的東西，總是很容易消失。無論我們多麼珍惜，多麼努力去嘗試抓緊，那些東西始終也好像水滴在指縫間流走，流走的，便不能重新遇上，我們也沒有機械貓叮嚀的時光機可以回到過去，改變未來。這時，或許會帶點後悔，但是，後悔都不能改寫現實。人有悲歡離合，月有陰晴圓缺，所有身邊的人和物總有離開的一天，我們要好好珍惜，避免待失去時才懂得後悔，才想起往日美好的時光。

足印

鄭耀均

中六

偶爾在報章上會看到考古學家在某地方發現史前恐龍的腳印，令各方的學者也欣喜若狂。因為這能有利於他們瞭解恐龍和其他生物的演替及進化，為考古界的學術發展邁進一大步。平平無奇的腳印看似不足為奇，但當人類利用累積下來的知識及經驗，去分析及探索這些足跡時，卻得出令人難以置信的結果。大自然令人類得著甚大。而我們的足印，難道不是同出一轍嗎？

人生中的足印，會隨著時光流逝而不知不覺漸漸改變，不管你願不願意，或留不留意，你亦要以微笑面對。從醫院中的產房，你的足印便開始累積，那天真爛漫的腳步，猶如剛誕生小鹿般發軟，但你並不孤單。兩對強而有力、藏有歲月瘡疤的臂彎，必會在你身旁扶持著你。他們堅實的足印，與你形成南轅北轍的對比。父母見證你那真摯的足印，成為他們往後繼續留下足印的動力。而這個時候，父母的足印就成為你暫時的踏腳石。

踏入青春期，你的足印越變越大了。在那時的旅途，遇見志同道合的伙伴，與你的足印同步留在地上。那不規則、輕快的腳步顯得十分愉快。但沉醉於單純的框框之中，你漸漸發覺自己走過的足印開始在你的前方出現，發現自己開始在原地兜兜轉轉，人生目標愈來愈模糊，腳步開始變得緩慢，漫無目的地走著。那沉重、充滿猶豫的足印，令你懷念單純的童年。你不能再活在父母的懷抱中，而被逼成長。

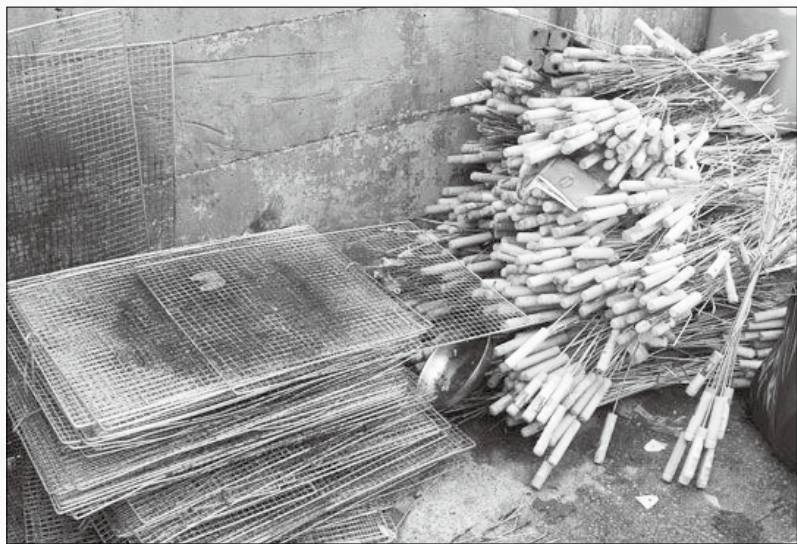
到了足印最頻密的時段，你或許會在人生中巧合機緣下接觸到宗教或信仰，成為支持你繼續留下足印的支柱。你所遇上的桎梏和困難，亦能通通衝破，例如基督教的信徒，為了更認識及敬拜上帝，教堂上那被打蠟的地板上，被你的足印所磨蝕，失去了昔日的光澤，反而會讓你明瞭這些足印並非白

白留下，而是回饋和無私奉獻的見證。它印證着不求名利、不求虛名、不求窮乏者向你道謝，在你生命中加添色彩。那璀璨、豐富、豔麗的生命無愧於自己，比起那終生忙碌於工作、無所事事的日子更有意義。

再次在教堂上，但你卻躺身於那冷冰冰的四方長木板上。所有久違了的親朋摯友，一雙雙足印遺留在你的身旁。他們在你身上放滿鮮花，此時你倆分隔兩地，你的足印依舊存在，只是在他們的上空留下，而非在凡世間的地殼上。鋼琴聲令他們的足印旁留下暖暖的淚水，那令人感到惋惜、傷心、不捨的熱淚亦使你渴求回到地上，留下更多的足印，可惜你的人生已到終點，被逼完成任務回到天家，但你的足印卻在人世間百世流芳、永不磨滅。

回首過去，從幼小的足印，到漸漸頻密且體積越大，然後在足印旁出現拐杖所留下的黑點，你總覺得不應該那麼少。但這就是上帝所定下來的法則，如在跑道上只有起點和終點，並不能在比賽中向後退。倒不如做些不令自己後悔終生的事情，想做就做，千萬別帶着遺憾活到終點，拼盡無悔，驀然回首，人生中走來的足印，它所包含的傷痛及所有決定，也是精彩。





《其一》

郭詩雅

中五

太陽隱於雲群後，
學生站於榕樹下。
拍照捕捉，
短暫快樂。

旅行於十一月末，
黃葉襯托著綠葉，
風景與季節衝突。

雲朵隨著風兒移動，
濃煙隨著寒風飄去。

燒烤過後，氣氛失落，
棄燒烤叉，堆積如山，
廚餘垃圾，成千成萬。

人類枉法恣肆，
地球池魚林木。

《其二》

張熙 中五

秋風颯爽蕩人心，
季時外竊寒風朔。
旅途吾欲生欣怡，
行囊難有苦事存。



《其二》

張津銘 中六

秋旱襲來風絕雨，
馮子南下遊赤柱。
風來火旺暖人心，
齊來爭先把肉煮。
飯後海灘把歌唱，
試後將別真惆悵。
相見明日何其少，
還望散後能相遇。



議論

縦
横



我最欣賞的格言

謝紫晴 中一

我最欣賞的格言是「世上無難事，只要肯攀登」。意謂世界上沒有難事，只要下定決心，沒有辦不成的事。在我成長的道路上，這句格言給了我很深刻的啟示。

以前，我不懂騎自行車，曾多次請求爸爸教我。可是，他一直都沒有時間。我想了想，決定自學。某天，我找來媽媽的藍色自行車。在同學的幫助下，終於「爬」上了車。沒想到知易難行——上車後，車子搖搖晃晃，總不穩定。沒想到踏上幾腳後，車子就歪，我好像要摔下來似的。當我跟踉蹌蹌往前騎時，前路忽然冒出了一個「障礙物」——石頭。我正想轉動車頭方向，但由於失了平衡，「撲通」一聲，就跌倒在地上，胳膊上癢了一片青黑，我急得哇哇大哭。正想放棄之際，忽然想起了「世上無難事，只要肯攀登」這句格言。是啊！只要有毅力，還有做不成的事嗎？想到這裏，我下定決心，繼續練習。一次失敗，兩次失敗，三次，四次……。

終於，憑着無比的信心、堅韌的毅力，我成功了！這句精闢的格言一直伴隨着我成長。有時，它是我前進的路標；有時，它是打開心靈的一把鑰匙。在我成長的過程中，這句格言一直激勵着我，讓我在成長的道路上奮勇前進。



改善社會歧視弱勢社群風氣的看法

陳旭瑜 中四

現今香港社會歧視弱勢社群的風氣嚴重，我們也不時會聽見別人對弱勢社群的惡意評價，例如：「那個『阿差』的體味很奇怪！」、「那個盲人走得真慢，阻塞街道。」那麼，弱勢社群是指哪些人呢？弱勢社群是指社會最低層或生活在貧窮線之下的人。他們無法改變自己在社會的地位、生活質素，而生存條件有不斷下沉之「勢」，甚至不斷被主流社會邊緣化，因而生出極強烈的「無力感」。這群人可包括貧困長者、獨居老人、新移民家庭、少數族裔、露宿者、精神病患者、殘疾人士等。因此，為了改變這種歧視弱勢社群的風氣，有人提出了可以加強教化；也有人提出可以立法規管。我認為這兩種方法各有好處，但是我認為加強教化的成效較大。

首先，我認為香港市民歧視弱勢社群的主因，是因為對他們存有誤解。他們可能誤以為弱勢社群一定是對社會沒有貢獻的，會阻礙香港的發展；他們也可能以為弱勢社群沒有品德操守，會做出為匪作歹的事，因而提高本港的罪案率。因此，我認為要改變這種風氣，應先教導市民有關



弱勢社群的正確資訊。政府及有關團體可以從電視廣告宣傳開始；也可以舉辦講座；或舉行與弱勢社群接觸的工作坊。我認為如要減少歧視，應先着重教育市民。當市民對弱勢社群的誤解消失，諒解他們的難處，自然不會歧視他們。

另外，我認為立法規管的方法對市民過於嚴厲，即使立法，市民可能只因不想犯法而不在弱勢社群背後指指點點。但是，市民心中可能仍對他們存在誤解或歧視。立法規管，只能治標，不能治本。因此，我認為在立法規管前，應先着重教化，只有教化才能真真正正消除歧視弱勢社群的風氣。

此外，儒家一直提倡「一個人格完善的君子，必須具備智慧、廉潔、勇敢、才藝等素質，並輔之以禮樂的修飾，才能使受教育者在人格上取得全面的發展」。因此，我認為市民會歧視弱勢社群，其中之一的原因，也是因為品格修養不足。而儒家思想重視教化，所以我認為應先對市民進行品德教化，以提升個人修養和質素，令他們學會尊重包容，並對人存有同理心，歧視的情況也能有所改善。

總括而言，要改善社會歧視弱勢社群的風氣，應該讓市民了解諒解及包容他人的重要，具備同理心，明白人人平等，人無分貴賤的道理。

先敬人，後敬羅衣

羅敏婷

中五

「人靠衣裝馬靠鞍」，相信大家聽過這句諺語。的確，鮮豔亮麗的衣服和飾品，能使自己在人前脫胎換骨，變得更有自信。就連天生麗質的影視明星，也非要換上莊重的禮服，才踏上長長的紅地毯，出席各種頒獎典禮。但即使這樣，我卻始終認為品格才是衡量一個人是否值得尊敬的標準，不應「先敬羅衣後敬人」。

好看的皮囊千篇一律，有趣的靈魂萬裏挑一。有些人雖然打扮乾淨整齊，但你可能沒想過——他會因為別人不小心弄髒其衣服而破口大罵；有些人雖然穿着樸素，但其實他把省下來的錢都捐給貧困山區的孩子。外貌、衣裝打扮固然是我們第一眼評價他人的標準，但知人知面不知心，你不會知道他的內心住着一個天使，還是魔鬼。

《聊齋誌異》中《畫皮》所敘述的，就是一個關於「人面獸心」的故事。男主人公王生在路上遇見一個被夫家為棄的美麗姑娘。他把姑娘帶回家中的書房，卻意外發現原來她是一個披着人皮的惡鬼。其後，惡鬼殘忍地把王生殺害。王生的妻子痛不欲生，向道士尋求令丈夫復活的方法。道士告訴她去市集找一個滿身骯髒的乞丐。她奮不顧身地去了，並應要求，忍辱負重地吞下乞丐的痰，吐在王生的身上。結果，那口痰變成一顆鮮活跳動的心臟，最後令丈夫起死回生。

女鬼披着人皮的時候妖媚動人，世間男子為她傾心；轉眼間卻化成醜陋的惡鬼，偷食別人的心臟。這是多麼大的反差！而乞丐雖然骯髒不堪，卻擁有一顆善良的心，處處想著救助別人。這故事告訴我們：「人不可以貌相，海水不可斗量」。品格，始終是走在衣裝前面的。如果真的「先敬羅衣後敬人」，那麼你敬的，很可能是一個無恥小人。

世界上還有許多人，憑藉自己的高尚品格，獲得世人的尊敬，流芳千古。

二零零四年十大感動中國人物之一——白芳禮老人，已超過九十歲，卻依然堅持每天撿垃圾。他從垃圾箱裏緩緩拾起一些空的水瓶和硬紙皮，放在自行車的後背。他騎著那部數十年破舊不堪的自行車，一腳，一腳，踏向垃圾回收站。可憐的是，垃圾回收的利潤並不高，一大袋垃圾只能賣出四至五元。而他，除了吃飯和生活費用，竟然能夠捐出幾萬元，讓十多個小學生繼續讀書升學。老人

的白襯衣已被日常的辛勞染得發黃，褲子也破舊得有數個洞子。但他在我們心中，仍然是偉大的，我們十分敬佩他。即使點燃他生命的蠟燭已經熄滅，但他的精神仍永遠長存。

衣服只是輔助品，只要有錢，就能買到漂亮華美的服裝；但是優良的品格、偉大的情操卻是永遠買不到的。我們應該尊敬高尚品格的人，而不是那些只會打扮外表，卻沒有豐富內涵的人。



看着手中的大學取錄通知書，我可真是欣喜若狂，十年寒窗苦讀，終究沒有白費。我還看到信中有一行字——「在你入讀本校前，有一年休學年，希望你能善用這一年時間追求夢想或體驗生活。」我頓時熱血沸騰，向着萬里無雲的藍天大喊：「太好了！我終於有時間可以聆聽自己的聲音，做自己想做的事了！」這三年來日以繼夜，夜以繼日地學習，忙碌的生活節奏，早已讓我喘不過氣來。一直支持我的，就是成功考入大學後，能讓自己踏上追逐新聞主播夢的道路。現在難得大學給予我是次機會，我怎能不好好把握？

夢想對我而言，並不是遙不可及的，而是敢想就敢做的事！青春就是要燃燒夢想和自己的熱情，莫待無花空折枝。因此，我有以下的規劃。

首先，萬丈高樓從地起，我深深明白要做好一個新聞主播，說話必要字正腔圓，以及精通最少中、英、普三種語言。因此，我會選擇報考粵語能力的測試，以及普通話水平測試，以便考取相關的資格，以成績證明自己的實力。至於英語，我會選擇在入讀大學後報考國際認可的評核。正所謂：「工欲善其事，必先利其器」，我當然會努力進修，裝備自己。另外，我會在家中收聽以往新聞主播報道的新聞，一來可以學習較精準的咬字發音，留意他們在傳遞不同類型新聞時的情感變化；二來可以讓自已瞭解世界各地發生的事情，提升對時事的觸覺和敏感度，可謂一舉兩得。同時，我亦會留意自己在日常生活中與人溝通時說的懶音，養成良好的習慣。

其次，讀萬卷書不如行萬里路，我深深明白要做一個新聞主播，就必須要從記者做起。要做一個好記者，就要明白天下大事，以及親身實地考察和採訪別人。因此，我決定用三個月時間去

做無國界義工，看看發展較落後的國家人民如何生活，特別是非洲等地。平日，我都只能在電視廣告中看到世界宣明會的片段——非洲的老弱婦孺都缺乏足夠的食物，以及缺乏良好的居住環境。以往的我，都是與家人每月捐款，以微薄的金錢略盡綿力。如今，我終於有時間及機會到當地體驗生活，以及幫助其他長時間付出的無國界義工。我會幫忙派發物資、食物，甚至陪伴那些非洲兒童玩樂，教曉他們讀書認字，給予他們更多歡樂和希望。我希望透過自己的親身經歷，以文字、圖片或影片記錄他們正生活在水深火熱之中，期盼有更多社會大眾關注這些弱勢社群。要做好記者，以及寫好文章稿件，並不是坐在舒服的空調房之中，便能憑空想像，而是要實地考察。因此，我會善用這難能可貴的時間，感受與以往截然不同的生活，反思生命的意義，活在當下。

最後，我會參加外國交流團，認識更多與我志同道合的人，並且希望有機會與當地的記者和新聞主播進行交流，認識探訪他人的技巧。當中，我相信亦有機會認識中西文化的差異，嘗試與不同國籍的人溝通。透過參觀當地知名大學，以及在宿舍居住，我可以早日體驗大學的生活。自我懂事以來，便一直聽聞有很多人批評香港填鴨式的教育制度，提倡歐美等國的自由學習，寓學習於娛樂。這正好為我提供一個機會，感受中西學習文化的差異，例如：老師只是負責在旁引導，不會參與討論；學生則能夠彼此交流學習，刺激思維。正所謂：「一人計短，二人計長。」西方學習就是利用自主學習鼓勵學生成長。我深信，在這濃厚的學術氛圍薰陶下，我必能獲益良多，為大學生活作好準備，以訂定長遠目標。

總括而言，我會善用這一年休學年，追求我的新聞主播夢，體驗發展較落後國家人民的艱苦生活，以及與經驗豐富的新聞主播交流，擴闊眼界。機會是留給有準備的人，我必定會善用休學年，充實自己，為大學充實而美好的生活做好準備，期待開花結果的一天。

「選擇」是現代社會最基本的人權，因為任何事情均須作出選擇，小至衣、食、住、行，如在每天外出前選擇穿什麼；午餐吃什麼；住在哪一個地區；乘搭什麼交通工具等。「選擇」也可以大至國家及世界大事，如與哪一個國家合作興建鐵路；實踐哪一項移民政策；是否研發太空火箭技術；乃至應否發動戰爭等，均是「選擇」的一部分。但不論事情孰輕孰重，每個「選擇」都對個人或世界的未來有所影響，而不同「選擇」更會帶來截然不同的結果。

每個人的「選擇」都會影響日常生活及前路。假若早上不願意起床，選擇賴床，那便很大機會遲到。若起床後，選擇不刷牙和不整理自身儀容，那出外時頭髮凌亂的你，便會被眾人瞪着，竊竊私語地看着、談論着；甚或與人對話時，對方嗅到你的口氣時，自然不願與你交談。由此可見，這些「選擇」損害了個人形象及別人對你的印象。若在考試、測驗前夕，你不溫習，選擇看也不看，那便不要指望會合格了！相反，若你「選擇」積極預備，不斷操練試題，那便佳績可望。誠如香港職業拳擊手曹星如，他在一次比賽的第二回合與對手相撞，左邊額頭頓時腫起，甚至蔽住了視線，但他並沒有選擇放棄。直至數回合後，醫護人員要求暫停才中止了比賽。最終，曹星如更以點數獲勝。人若選擇放棄，定必沒有機會向前，甚至影響日常社交；但若選擇堅持，則能向前邁步，向上攀爬，甚至事半功倍。而這一切生活必經及影響將來前途的結果，皆掌握在自己手中的「選擇」。

每個個人的「選擇」更影響着社會的命運。社會是由一群人組成的，因此個人「選擇」會影響社會發展。如立法會的制度，是由議員代民發聲，從而決定法例的修訂和政策的推行是否通過，主宰着社會的藍圖。而立法會議員的投票均影響政策的推行和法例修訂的結果。可惜，現時社會的勢力分佈並不平均，因此部分人的「選擇」難以左右大局。這也是個人「選擇」影響着社會的一例。因為制度、規則也是人訂立的。而且當一群人「選擇」推行運動或革命，亦會影響社會運作。如「佔中運動」，因民眾不滿政府政策及條例，而選擇到街上集會、示威，影響到整體交通運作，以及商鋪的經濟效益；更影響旅客對本港的印象，令整體社會的經濟受損，破壞社會秩序及穩定性。可見，當每個人的意見聚集起來，並作出抉擇時，每個「選擇」皆影響着社會整體的發展。

一個人「選擇」的影響也可以十分巨大，影響着國家的未來。中國歷代，皆因君主的「選擇」不當，而使國家步入滅亡的命運，如商朝的商紂，他選擇沉淪於享樂和貪圖美色，不務正業，荒廢朝政，令國家實力日益衰退。即使比干好言勸諫，他更殺死比干，選擇繼續享樂，因而令商朝亡國。即使是如今沒有天子的時代，每個政府及國家均是由人民組成，但即使意見再多，國家總統及主席等權力較大的人，依然掌控着國家命運的選擇權。可見不論古今，國家未來，仍是取決於個人的選擇。

或有人說，天災的損害程度不可以「選擇」了吧？不，人是可以選擇的。如日本是多災多難的國家，地震頻生；但其政府建設防震設計在基礎建設上，大大減低了地震對建築及人身安全的傷害，更從小教育市民保護自身，有助提高市民預防地震及求生意識，減低因天災帶來的人命傷



亡。相反，中國四川因官員貪污，基建簡陋，容易倒塌，人民的應對意識及其措施更少之又少，因而面對天災時死傷慘重。這些應付意外及天災的「選擇」，可見是操控着人民的安危，所以這也是可「選擇」的範圍內。

其實每個「選擇」皆是人為的。教育水平、經歷均會影響其思想及思維，因而影響選擇時的判斷。雖然現代世界愈來愈文明，但依然有人無法選擇。所以人應珍惜每一次的選擇，三思而行。

敘事

寫人



記一次勝利的滋味

張曉悠 中一

記得小時候，我問爸爸：「爸爸，勝利的滋味是怎樣的？」爸爸笑着說：「每個人都會有戰敗和勝利，爸爸的戰敗是過去，勝利是現在。你的勝利要自己尋找的。」我看著爸爸，擺出一副大惑不惑的樣子。他只是摸着我的頭，回了我一個微笑。

那年七歲，我一直在尋找勝利的滋味。我考試高分、比賽第一，每次都跟爸爸說「我勝利了」，但其實我是無動於衷的。直到十七歲有一天，我終於找到了我的人生目標。可是，爸爸突如其來的一場意外，我的目標隨之消失了……。

爸爸發生嚴重交通意外，進了醫院，我整個人變得無助。本來的目標、本來的攝影夢一剎那破滅了。過了一個月，爸爸終於甦醒了。可是，他不能說話，下半身不能動。我深深體會到「戰敗」的感覺，我快要崩潰，不禁哭了。於是，爸爸努力拿起筆，在我帶去醫院的相冊上，寫了「繼續」二字……我又是大惑不惑，爸又是回以一個微笑和摸着我的頭。

有一回，我回到舊屋，又想起爸爸。在爸爸的書房裏，我找到了一個小盒子，裏面有一部照相機和幾張紙。在這裡，我知道了爸爸的「戰敗」和「勝利」。照相機裏是爸爸的一生，紙裏寫了「繼續走，你就會得到勝利」。我終於恍然大悟。真正的勝利是什麼？原來就是我出生在這世上。如果我沒出生在這世上，我就連勝利是什麼也不知道。

在人生中，「戰敗」只是一個過客，只要你努力、堅持，就一定能得到勝利。我感謝爸爸能帶我來到這世上，讓我嘗試勝利的滋味。

清晨時分，柔和的陽光從我的眼簾鑽入，我意識到自己應該起床，身體像是和床褥黏在一起。我掙脫過後，帶着惺忪的睡眠就離開家門。

沿着樓梯走，我聽到廣場舞的伴奏，是「大媽」在耍扇子。伴隨着扇子在跳動的聲音，看見她們在蹦蹦跳跳，體力還綽綽有餘，果然「寶刀未老」，難怪她們能在公園「稱霸」多年。

到了斜路，我看見一對兄弟，年齡較大的一手拿書包，背上又多背一個書包，他帶着弟弟上學，嘴上像父親一般教導弟弟。看着這有趣而溫馨的畫面，說他們是兄弟，我認為更像是父子。

走到海濱長廊，一陣極濃的海水味刺激着我的鼻孔，原來有點鼻塞的鼻子也瞬間舒暢了，這是早晨海濱的味道。這時，我望向海，太陽直射海面，映成一幅美麗的畫，如斯美景，都市人心中的煩惱自然會被淨化。聆聽這美妙的海聲，我幻想自己在海浪上漂浮的情況，待大海把我送往遠方的孤島，享受一個人的寧靜——就是這奇妙的感覺，迎來了大量運動愛好者在這運動，有跑步的，有跳繩的，有騎腳踏車的，把海濱長廊當成露天的健身室，啊——想象中的孤島也不孤單了。或許，這裡較健身室優勝的，是有着美麗的大自然景觀，所以人們都來尋找在都市中沒有的心靈上的寧靜吧！走着走着，就看到學校的大門。

到了校門，又是充滿期待的一天，希望有新的挑戰吧！

觸景傷情的旅行日

李蔚姍

中三

今天是學校旅行的日子，郊外風光明媚，景致優美，我卻無心欣賞此美景。

四周的同學一下車就吱吱喳喳說個不停，我不禁想起昔日的我們也曾在此歡聲笑語，好不熱鬧。聽到老師一聲解散，大家馬上拖朋帶友，在這綠意盎然的叢林小徑間消失得無影無蹤，如同當初的我和好友一般。

看着瞬間回復寧靜的小路，我也開始邁出脚步在此林間緩行。明媚的陽光灑落在鬱鬱蒼蒼的植物上，當植物沐浴於柔和光線下，生出令人溫暖的感覺，我不禁頓足，停下來細賞。然而，柔和的陽光同樣映落在我身上，卻是如此冰冷，就如涼風颯颯的秋風般，是在戲弄我嗎？本已在我腦海裏泛黃的記憶不斷被掀開，想到我們曾幾何時暖意綿綿的友誼變成如今滲入骨子裏的寒意，我的心被緊緊揪着。

繼續往前走，來到萬紫千紅的大路，路旁種滿千彩斑斕的花朵，白花飄香令人心曠神怡。淺白的花朵間點綴着一點紅，而我們的友誼也是白中綴上一絲墨，但萬萬想不到那一絲墨色就是我們友情的裂口。

走到燒烤場地，終於看到熱鬧的人群了。他們燒烤的炊煙黑黑的一團，濃濃飄往空中，慢慢升高，最後終在晴空中消散，就像與萬里無雲的天空融為一體。我們友誼的裂口，也能在某一天如同黑煙

般在晴空中消散，重新和好如初嗎？

四周的人樂融融地烤着食物，笑聲不斷，記得往時的我們也是這般的。可惜如今物是人非，燒烤場不遠處的大樹上雖然長滿秋紅的葉子，但此葉已經非去年的葉子了。

冰凍三尺，非一日之寒。如今冷若冰霜的友情，究竟何時才能回到當初，像燒烤的人群一樣樂融融？



今天是回家鄉的日子，仔細數數，我已經有兩年沒有和父母一起回老家了。

一年有三百六十五天，我們每天都平平淡淡地過着冷暖自知的孤獨生活。很久、很久沒有嘗過天倫之樂了。

回老家是一場長途跋涉的旅途，一路的奔波，從南到北，而老家只是一個短暫的歇息地，熱鬧不過彈指之間，轉眼我們又要各奔東西。儘管很累，卻仍無法阻止我內心的小雀躍，期待着家鄉的小溫暖。

當我托着行李蹣跚地走到家的老院子門口時，那個場景依舊熟悉又陌生。院裏那棵老樹仍舊是獨樹一幟地在微風中冷艷着，只是身上張燈結彩的掛飾給它增添了不少生氣。綠蔭邊湍急的河流似乎在忙着趕上回家過年的末班車。

原來，家裏已經是滿屋子人了。今年似乎無人缺席這場盛宴，大家在等着幾個還在趕路的孩子，然後準備吃團圓飯。一瞬間，夜幕降臨，黑暗中路燈開始默默發光發亮，外面似乎很寧靜，街道上的人群開始消散，偶爾路過幾個趕着回家的旅人，一切一切，都突顯了我們屋裏的熱鬧暖和。奶奶不時向窗外望去，似乎在眺望還未有到家的表哥。廚房裏香噴噴的飯菜已經在冒着暖煙了，等待着最後一位成員的到來。滔滔不絕的歡聲笑語在迷煙中散開，是一派久違的和諧氣象。奶奶的心裏還是放不下表哥，老人家免不了時時刻刻牽掛着兒女子孫，只希望大家都能吃上一頓溫暖的家鄉菜。



奶奶還喜歡跟我們回憶往事，告訴我們一些自己都不曾記住的故事。流年轉逝，奶奶說我小時候一去到幼稚園就哭着要回家，喜歡在家門口的石墩上坐着等姐姐放學回來；她說表哥過年回家，大半夜還想吃奶奶包的餃子；她說姐姐上了初中住宿後，一到周末都是第一時間回家，為了能在家睡個「懶覺」；她還說後來我們都長大了，所有的人和事都能記得，但怎麼常常忘了回家看看……大夥聊了半小時，最後一道菜終於出鍋了。這時候，門鈴也響起了，表哥到家，奶奶的心願實現了。

這個晚上，似乎因為每個人的出現而變得更加溫暖。屋裏載歡載笑，恍惚之間，回家成了一場最美的旅途。這個可愛的家，我們怎麼捨得忘記回來？屋外樹高似千尺，春風拂過，落葉歸根。時針一轉，我們又要奔往不同方向，在陌生的城市裏翩翩起舞，只有在回家時，我們才會卸下一身包袱，成為暖風下的孩子。

舊地重遊

蘇苡淳 中四

畢業多年後，我重遊我的母校——香港中國婦女會馮堯敬紀念中學。今天是一零廿七年，光陰似箭，日月如梭。轉眼間，我已離開中學校園七年了。

看着學校的改變，不禁令我讚歎！想當年，這所學校是沒有升降機的，現在卻增設了。過往，老師每天都要爬上六樓、七樓，每每爬完樓梯後，都氣喘呼呼地上課。當然，也有健壯的老師爬慣了，顯得十分輕鬆。

經過小食部，原來親愛的雲姐已經退休，在家中享天倫之樂。提起小食部，不得不說其中最有名氣的小吃——「雲姐撈麵」。記得每個小息，最快售罄的食品必定是「雲姐撈麵」，它有令人着迷的吸引力，是學生饑腸轆轆時的急救品。

突然，耳熟能詳的鐘聲響起，記得以往上課，總是期待聽到這美妙鐘聲響起的那一刻。一些封塵的片段……忽然在我腦海間閃過——三零七課室，我必須重遊的教



室——這裡充滿着練習舞蹈的回憶。以往瘋狂排練舞步的畫面又在腦海中重現，此房獨有的氣味使我十分陶醉。唯一改變的是，破舊棕色的地板變成了亮麗的黃色，並塗上一層光油，看起來十分潔淨。想到昔日在舞蹈隊的點點滴滴，真是令人難以忘懷。

另一件不變的事物，就是濃厚的人情味。雖然校工叔叔與嬸嬸已新舊交替，但他們仍笑容滿面的歡迎我這一位「校友」。經過一樓教員室，看見了一些新面孔，但同時仍有很多曾經教導我、指導我的老師繼續春風化雨。

重返中學校園，使我想起了不同的往事，每一件也難以忘懷，永遠烙在我的心頭。

時間表的碎片

梁楛茵 中五

看着那張被撕成碎片的時間表，我陷入了回憶當中。從前的我是一個事事追求完美的人，做每一件事情都安排好了時間，從不超時，每天都按照密密麻麻的時間表生活。但經過一段不如意的經歷後，我學會了隨遇而安。儘管這不是一段美好的回憶。

那天，我如同往常一樣，在放學後踏上前往補習社的路途。我本應如同時間表一般，在下午七時半抵達我的目的地。但這次……卻出了意外。在原本萬里無雲的天空滿佈烏雲的一刻，我就知道接下來，我要面對多大的困境了！

「轟隆」一聲，原本已步入黑夜的天空忽然亮如白晝，一道閃電劃破長空，隨後兩道、三道……不斷落下，毫不間斷。伴隨着雷聲的不只有閃電，還有傾盆大雨。命運彷彿在捉弄我，一向準備周全的我，竟然沒有帶傘出門，我趕忙找地方避雨。



時間一分一秒的過去，這場雨依舊沒有減弱的跡象，但原定的時間卻悄悄溜走，只餘下十五分鐘而已。我不能容許自己的生活偏離時間表，於是我狠下決心，冒着大雨繼續前進。

我拖着已經完全濕透的身體，終於跑到了補習社前，我看看因奔跑而移位的手錶，正顯示七時二十九分，正當我鬆一口氣，為自己沒有偏離時間表而高興之際，這時，雷聲再次響起，一道閃電劈在補習社旁邊的樹上，瞬間劈斷了樹幹。我反應不及，只能看着那棵斷裂的樹朝我倒來，我緊閉雙眼，等待著接下來的命運。黑暗中我感到雙腿傳來一陣劇痛，張眼一看，原來那棵樹只是壓住我的腿，我頓時有種劫後餘生的感覺。

在送往醫院的途中，我思考了很多事，其實我原來是可以逃過這次劫難的。如果我順應命運的安排，不強求遵從時間表的話，我不是正在咖啡廳休息，而不是躺在擔架上，被送到醫院呢？命運給了我毫髮無損的機會，是我為了所謂的時間表，推開了這個機會。這一刻，我好像明白了一個道理。

人生本就有著無限的變數，沒有人能為人生定一張時間表，因為沒有可能預料未來的事。於是，我回家後，把那張限制了我的未來的時間表撕碎。因為，我知道，以後的未來會出現更多未知的事，但一定會比過去更精彩。

夕陽的餘暉映照在繁華的街道上，乏味的街道開始喧囂。大城市的景象總是千篇一律，走在前往郵局的路上，我回想起家鄉的種種……

我的家在遙遠的南方，一家六口兄弟姐妹都為了生活離開了家鄉，餘下最年幼的弟弟在家鄉照顧母親，我也是離開的一員。早前從弟弟的來信中得知母親臥病在床，而我並不能抽身於繁忙的工作，不能前往探望。我唯有寄了一筆錢回去，要弟弟看顧好母親。事過幾周，如今我抱着不安躁動的心情走在喧囂的街道上，盼能有母親的消息，前往郵局。

走着走着，嗅到一陣蕃薯香。果然，街角的盡頭有人在賣蕃薯。對我而言，蕃薯的意義重大。小時候父親早逝，母親一人獨力照顧我們。基於家境清貧的關係，母親經常弄蕃薯湯給我們充飢。看着街角的小販，一幅幅畫面映入眼簾——母親在大鍋前做菜的背影，留在腦海中揮之不散。無數次與母親同桌吃飯的景象，令我躁動的心更為七上八下。我責怪自己為什麼不回去探望母親；我後悔自己不能在母親身邊陪伴；我擔憂不能再喝母親煮的蕃薯湯。眼前喧囂繁雜的街道都比不上我凌亂的思緒。人群的吵鬧聲是如此令人心煩。我心想：「沒有人能明白我吧。」、「弟弟會責怪我嗎？」、「兄弟姐妹只有我沒回去？」……思緒不停地迴旋。

突然，手機訊息的響號聲把我由沉思中喚回來。「你有一份郵件，請到一零七號郵局領取。」這份訊息是祝福？還是詛咒？名為「未知」的恐懼為繁華的街道蒙上一層灰。人群在我看來，都頂着

一副撲克臉，為我增添了一份不安。現在唯一的希望全寄托於郵件上，既盼望着喜訊，也懷着不安的心情，我繼續前往郵局。

到達郵局，我快步上前，詢問櫃檯的職員：「我的郵件在嗎？」從櫃檯的玻璃上，我看到自己的表情是多麼的焦慮惶恐。然而，職員抬出來的，是一個箱子，我心想：「箱子？」接過郵件，上面放着一封信，信面的字跡是熟悉的，親切的，是弟弟寫給我的信。

「哥哥，母親的病情已經好轉了，雖然要動手術，但是醫生說並不會危及生命，大可放心。感謝你寄回來的金錢，母親才可以及時動手術。其他哥哥姐姐音訊全無，在母親病倒，焦慮不安的時候，你的來信給我希望。母親知道你會自責，會想念家鄉，所以叮囑你不用自責，把家鄉種的蕃薯寄過去給你，要你努力工作，假日回來與她團聚。」

看到這裏，我不禁流下熱淚。抱起那一箱沉重的蕃薯，那份重，是幸福的重。離開郵局，喧囂的街道依舊喧囂，叫囂的小販依舊叫囂。但不同的是，我的心情與這些景象成反比。我不斷重複看着信件，繼續走在喧囂中，享受一個人的寧靜。

湛藍的天空像是一幅未乾透的水墨畫，魚鱗般的白雲，時而濃厚，時而輕淡。我走過一段紅磚路，在紅毯的盡頭，有一棵樹，由翠綠映襯的，是鮮黃的果實……雖是平凡且普通不過的果實，卻牽動我的思緒，令我的視線變得朦朧，流下一串串晶瑩滑過臉龐。

這個果實在市場很常見，容易購買，酸甜的滋味特別令人喜愛，更令我一試難忘。我家祖父也樂於從內地老家帶一些回來——老家旁邊就種了一棵樹，老人家總嘮叨自己種出來的比市場上賣的有使用農藥的好，想吃了，他就自己背個包回老家採點回來。小時候的我喜歡讓祖父把果實切成片。那星星般的形狀，深得童年的我追捧。祖父也縱容我，每次亦願意花上點時間切開，陪伴我一起吃。

果實可說是我和祖父最深刻的，恆之不變的「日常」代表了。它也陪伴我渡過了許些日子。但是，時間總有着莫大的威力，能偷偷改變我們的生活。

在小學時，一有空我就會和祖父一起返老家，美名曰「渡假」，也不過是在那邊偷一下懶，脫離父母的「掌控」，由祖父帶着我吃喝玩樂罷了。當我第一次由祖父拉着我，路過寧靜的小道，踏上鮮紅的磚石，一切的事物對我來說都是陌生而新穎的。最後抵達在一座小屋前，旁邊種滿了色彩繽紛的花兒，更令人注目的是一棵萬丈的樹木，結滿黃澄澄的果實。我知道，這是我一直以來所吃的果實的來源地，是我們家裏的根本。

我很愛這個地方，每當學校有假期時，我就會拉着祖父撒嬌，讓他帶我出去……可惜的是，日子不可能天天終究如一。

上了中學，步入另一個世界，我的日子開始變得繁忙。不論是課業、活動也充塞得密密麻麻，我空閒的時間變少了。每次回家，都是匆匆吃飯，再去補習；每次回家，都是匆匆地路過客廳，未能與祖父多說一句。

「這個假期要回去嗎？」

「不，我要考試，沒有空回去了。」

「寒假要回去採些楊桃嗎？」

「不了，學校要補課，我不能離開。」

每次對話結束，總能看到祖父失落的背影，看上去很孤單。但是，我真的沒有時間了。面對文憑試，學校催谷我們，上補習班、做練習卷，又哪有空再一起去採果實，和老人聊天呢？

度年如日，時光飛逝，高中很快又過去了。然而，最大分



歧路也在這時候出現了。

有一天回家，我聽到了祖母的啜泣。我有點疑惑，不知道發生了什麼事。提起腳步輕輕走近，卻是聽到祖母在房裏和父親說，祖父的肺和大腸的腫瘤惡化，不能動手術，日後還要找醫生看身體情況。

霎時間，我變得難以呼吸，心頭壓上一塊大石，淚水也滔滔而來。我拖着被灌滿鉛的身軀，帶着沉重的步伐和心情，回到自己的房裏。

老人早前說身體不適，肚子疼，已經去過醫院看診了，但我萬萬沒想到，他身體的毛病，竟是如此的嚴重。

老人家生老病死，看似是再尋常不過了。友人與親人說着安慰的話，講着諸多的道理，讓我不要傷心難過，也叫我好好唸書，多陪陪祖父。

好幾回，看到祖父坐在沙發上，如什麼事也沒發生一樣，我的眼淚就忍不住在眼眶打轉，流下來了。他看到也是嚇了一跳，又是跑來安慰，又是遞上紙巾，更是切了和兒時記憶



相同的果實，逗我開心。

然而，果實也不如童年般美味酸甜，只留下苦澀的味道。

再過幾年，直至老人埋入黃土，除了他曾給了我的果實，我亦未曾再買來吃了。

「我知道你最乖，好好讀書，你比你爸更出色，更聰明。楊桃，我是不能再去給你搬回來了，有空就自己去看看，我知道你記得怎麼去的，一個人也沒有問題吧。」

「那可是家族承傳下來的老樹了，你也要好好珍惜，種出更多的果實，留給你兒女吃啊。」

憶起祖父說過的話，盯着眼前那黃澄澄的果實，我不禁默默回味著……。

From The Principal

Have you ever dreamt of being a teen writer? It won't be a challenge anymore in this modern world with advanced technology. You can make a dramatic boost in English writing by various means.

Now is the time to start the habit of writing. You can write for fun and record a diary of enchanting moments or bitter experiences to be shared with friends or even strangers. You may come up with more brilliant ideas as you grow older with more unforgettable encounters.

Remember: Don't keep your ideas hidden. Express your thoughts and feelings in words that can stay forever. Show your generosity. Share with everybody. As you open your minds, you can let others have the chance to learn from you.

Our school has introduced a whole school approach towards reading. Currently, a program entitled "Books can Share your Joy" has been implemented to promote reading which is a prerequisite for good writing. A Chinese saying claims that if you have thoroughly read the 300 Tang poems, you will be able to absorb them. You may be inspired by their ideas while reading and since you have grasped the basic skills of writing, rarely will you make errors. You may also have your ideas refined. Finally, you can create your own work and feel that success is easy to achieve.

Of course, originality is of utmost importance for writing. The style should be unique to different individuals. However, with perseverance and determination, eventually everyone can write with ease. It won't do any harm to try to write about something simple and familiar at first. Just keep practising and unleash your imagination. You won't have any regrets.

Enjoy writing and become better at it. That would certainly enhance your competitiveness in the job market.

Dr. Suen Lee Wa
Principal

Voice of Erudition

It implies that students should read, learn and be knowledgeable and versatile. The message is deeply embedded in our school motto "Erudition and Determination". Students are encouraged to explore their environment. What they have discovered or experienced can be shared with others. This publication serves the purpose for students to read and express what they have in their minds.

From The Editor

The mission of this booklet “Voice of Erudition” is to offer a platform for sharing well-written articles of our students regardless of their academic levels.

One new feature of this booklet is “Talks Of The City” with eight students’ views on issues related to their daily lives. Students felt pride to have their photos included.

We would like to thank our young writers who have definitely illustrated their originality and creativity in their writing. Thanks are also extended to members of our English Department for their contribution to the publication of this booklet. Without their help, this booklet would not have come into being.

One final advice to aspiring writers is to read more. If you don’t know what to write about, just read our “Voice of Erudition” which can surely inspire you. It would also be an effective way to show your appreciation and encouragement to the writers of this booklet by reading their works.

Conquer your fears and strive for excellence in English writing. That would help you for the rest of your life.

Ms. Lam Lai Kuen
Editor

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Acknowledgements to all English teachers

Foreword

Inspiration Is All Around Us!

As another academic year draws to a close, it is with great delight that we present this year's Voice of Erudition. Take some time to leaf through the pages of student writing, we're sure a story or article will grab your attention and provide some valuable inspiration.

This year, our annual Languages Fortnight opened students' eyes to the wonder of inspiring characters in literature. When we read books, comics, magazines or even prose writing in Voice of Erudition, we can feel inspired by the positive traits displayed by the characters we encounter. Human virtues such as courage, determination and empathy are illuminated with detail and description. When we personally connect with these characters, they can serve as role models or inspiration in our own lives. With this in mind, we can conclude that reading is an inspirational and enjoyable leisure activity. It's a great way to beat the summer heat and be transported to another world, without even leaving home.

Another beneficial pastime is composing some descriptive writing such as expressing hopes and goals for the future. This simple task can help provide us with the motivation to realize our aspirations. The summer holiday is a great time to evaluate if you are on track to achieving your goals. Do you have any new goals for the coming academic year? What do you hope to achieve? Anchor your plans in expressive writing as this will help you start working towards accomplishing your goals.

Expressive writing has also been linked to improved mood and lower stress. Recently, the value of keeping a weekly gratitude diary has been promoted to improve happiness and health. A gratitude diary makes the good aspects of life more prominent. Try writing about the things you are grateful for; it could be a wonderful friend who makes you laugh or your favourite subject at school that engages your mind and creativity. Take a moment to write expressing gratitude and feel your mind shift in a positive direction.

We can also get into the habit of journaling our inspiring moments on social media or an online diary. Recording our experiences when we feel inspired can help give us an appreciation for life and a positive attitude. We can feel like we are a part of something larger than ourselves and connect with others to share our inspiration.

Finally, we can learn to be mindful of opportunities to benefit from inspiration in our everyday lives. Inspiration is all around us. As Henry Miller once stated, "The moment one gives close attention to anything, even a blade of grass, it becomes a mysterious, awesome, indescribably magnificent world in itself."

Ms. Pun Lai Hung
Vice-principal & English Panel Head

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My Visit To The Hong Kong Space Museum

Liu Zhi Heng F.2

On 30th November 2017, all Form 2 students visited the Hong Kong Space Museum because we had to do a project for our STEM programme.

We learned about the solar system, the stars and the planets. We knew how they affected the Earth. Also, we looked at some models of the galaxies. They were incredible. We also examined the structure of a space shuttle. It was very educational.

In the afternoon, we watched a show about auroras in the planetarium. The aurora is one of nature's most awesome spectacles. It was gorgeous. After that, we explored the space in a virtual space station. It was very inspiring for all of us.

There was a souvenir shop near the exit. It was called the Exploration Store. They sold fun and educational products. There was also a small book corner for readers to read the astronomy magazines and books. It was a great place for us.

Before we left, we took a photo together. We were all confident of completing our task after the visit.

Fitness And Teen Health

Law Ka Lok F.3

It is important for everyone especially the teens to stay fit because we can increase our self-confidence.

First, we can stay active by going cycling, hiking or walking. We should go to school and back home on foot as it helps us stay fit. We can also cycle in our spare time because cycling can bring us happiness.

Then, we should play sports such as football, rugby and basketball. All these are the most effective to help us grow taller and stronger.

Moreover, we can go to a fitness club to ride a stationary bike, do weight training, or run on a treadmill. We can also hire a personal trainer to help us design a special training program so that we can become more muscular if we can afford it.

To conclude, it is important for us to stay fit so that we can be more confident and energetic.

My Dream Job

Lo Lok Sum F.3

Everyone will have his dream job and mine is to be a professional basketball trainer. The job of being a basketball trainer is rewarding as it can enrich the lives of youngsters.

If I take up this job, I will have to design training programs to help the participants to enhance their basketball skills. Sometimes, I need to arrange some friendly matches for my team.

There are a number of reasons why I want to be a basketball trainer. Firstly, I love playing basketball since I was a small boy. I played with my neighbours in the playground near my home almost every day. Then when I entered the secondary school, I joined the basketball team and was an active member. However, there was a trainer whom I felt was a bit naïve, so I want to be a basketball trainer to enable the participants to learn effectively. Secondly, the income of a basketball trainer is attractive. I can get about \$16000 a month. Last but not least, I want to work as a basketball trainer in order to promote basketball to the young. I want the next generation to stay strong and healthy, just like me.

I am confident that I am suitable for this job. First and foremost, I am a good basketball player, so surely I can teach my team how to play basketball well. Next, I have strong communication skills. I can get along well with everyone and I can demonstrate to the participants the tactics clearly, so they will have a greater chance to win.

I hope that my dream can come true. I would like to have the chance to teach in my secondary school.



Volunteering

Wong Chun Lung F.4



I started volunteering when I was a primary school student. It has been more than ten years. Thus, I am a well-experienced volunteer.

I have visited the elderly homes several times. Every time I visit it, I feel different. Sometimes the elderly can be very passive, but some will take the lead and get very excited. This looks like a good sign, because we volunteers do not have to spend time trying to make them engaged. On the other hand, I realize that they have been left in the elderly homes for a long period of time. Therefore, when I visit them, I use all my tricks to have a lively chat with them. Some of them will be entertained while others can be pretty cold and standoffish. I have learnt that volunteers are not always welcomed. If I make the elderly listen to me and play the games, am I really helping and respecting them?

Perhaps you would wonder how I first started volunteering. It happened when I was just a small kid when my mother took me out to sell flags for charity. It was one of the fondest memories of my childhood because people would smile and praise me what a good child I was. I felt closer to my mother and also everyone around me when I volunteered.

I sense the bright side of everyone and never the dark side. Therefore, I keep selling flags. I have learnt to take rejection gracefully. People reject me simply because they may not be aware that it would hurt my feeling. Hence, I would do my best to be persuasive enough, in order to encourage more people to lend a hand.

I treasure every volunteering opportunity. I will continue to serve the community as a teenager, and later as an adult, and eventually as a retired elderly. I may have the chance to serve with teenagers in future, and everybody will be facing a brighter world.

Fighting Depression

Chow Ka Chai F.6

Last month, something tragic happened to my best friend, Chris. He lost both his parents. They were taking a flight to Hawaii for a vacation when the plane encountered difficulties and crashed. According to the news reports, there were no survivors. Although it was fortunate that my friend Chris wasn't on the plane, it was truly heartbreaking that he became an orphan along with his brothers. Chris and his brothers suffered from depression because of that tragedy. They couldn't believe what had just happened. Chris was really upset that he would never see his parents ever again. He cried for days and didn't go to school for a week. Over the first few days when he returned to school, he didn't talk to anybody, including teachers and me, his best friend. He kept isolating himself from people and didn't smile for days. He was experiencing overwhelming sadness, grief and depression. Then he started to lose interest in normal activities, like eating, exercising and entertaining. Also, he started to have sleep disturbances and lacked energy.

Being his best friend, I could not let this continue. I knew he must be suffering from a mental illness. Therefore, I called his elder brothers and told them that Chris was struggling with a serious problem. I also advised them that they should take Chris to see a psychiatrist. After starting therapy, he made improvements and was willing to interact with people again. Then I encouraged him to be happier and more optimistic. I kept him company and we shared enjoyable activities together, like playing video games, playing basketball and weight training. Moreover, I avoided discussing his parents too much, so that he could take his mind off his troubles. Furthermore, his brothers had taken the role of his parents. They started to talk to him more and show more care towards him. Hence, he could feel the safety and security of being loved and cared for. After a month, Chris had overcome his depressing condition and his mood began to stabilize.

I am here to give you some advice on how to cope with depression. First of all, don't let depression beat you. Stay optimistic and talk to reliable people for instance, family, friends, or even teachers. If the situation becomes worse, I suggest you seeing a professional like a psychiatrist or a social worker. And, always remember that sadness is temporary and a natural part of life.

Parachute Kids

Yick Long Hin F.6

School-life in Hong Kong is tough. Is this the main reason why Hong Kong parents are sending their children to study overseas? What is the major factor behind this phenomenon? Is it related to our ever-disappointing education system? These urgent questions deserve our attention.

A recent study conducted by the University of Hong Kong discovered that the percentage of parents considering sending their children to study overseas has risen by 20% since 2014. This means more and more parents are planning on taking this action. And the major factors in their decision-making include the learning atmosphere on campus and Hong Kong's crumbling education system.

Let me shed some light on the first reason, the learning atmosphere on campus. Without a doubt, there has been fierce competition for a limited number of university scholarships over the past decade. In other words, more and more secondary school graduates have failed to get a place at a local university. It will only get more competitive as the population of Hong Kong continues to grow non-stop. Secondary students have started to question the value of university. They now consider quitting their studies earlier to gain real work experience, to practise different practical skills and expand their contacts. This is in stark contrast to what they see as a limited chance to attend university and even then, many years studying for a degree with no guarantees of a job at the end. Bear in mind that in recent years, a university education has become quite political. I dare say, the learning atmosphere in some higher education environments is not really conducive to learning, especially for those parents who want their children to be 100% focused on their academics without any distractions.

Let's talk about the other factor contributing towards this phenomenon. Frankly speaking, our education system is a complete disaster and fails to meet our expectations. For such an advanced city as Hong Kong, our government and the top brass seem to fail to see the whole picture, which results in a heavy burden for students. The only thing the authority sees and values the most is just the exploitation of students, draining their creativity and turning them into exam machines.

Maybe it's true that this exam-oriented mode of education can drill students to be perfect in exams. However, how about the lives of students and the future of Hong Kong? Our dear government can't foresee a significant global trend – they fail to seize the chance to

cultivate the future generation of technological tycoons. Not until recently comes the rude awakening and the late realization that “Oh yes! STEM education is important for our future generations!” Nevertheless, it is too late for them to rectify this mistake as Hong Kong students fall way behind students of nearby Asian countries, such as Singapore and Korea. This has driven our students and parents to a kind of madness, forcing them to decide not to waste any more talents, time, and money on Hong Kong’s educational mess. They study overseas and ultimately, spread their wings, taking their talents with them.

However, this phenomenon does not benefit anyone in this society of ours. For those who choose to send their children overseas, it is quite a burden for them, since they are sending students to other countries, not just from Ma On Shan to Sha Tin. The expense of all this is unimaginable indeed. As for those who have no choice but to stay here in this chaos and madness, it’s never easy for them to accept that they are qualified to study somewhere else. The only thing that holds them back is a lack of financial support. This is very dangerous for our society because the gap between the wealthy and those in poverty grows wider. The better-off students have an unfair advantage, which leads to a growing resentment from the less privileged in our society.

This complex problem requires careful consideration from all stakeholders in our society. Even those of you reading this article are under an obligation to contribute your thoughts and ideas to disarm this bomb that is threatening our society.



A Letter To Santa Claus

Yeung Chui Yiu F.1

Dear Santa,

Hi, Santa. I'm so tired these days because I've got a lot of homework to do. Also, I need to prepare for the upcoming tests and exam. These have almost driven me crazy.

For this Christmas, I would like to have more love from my family. I forgot when we have become like strangers. We do not talk to each other much. My dad needs to work long hours and we seldom have a chance to talk. I miss the days when my dad and I had fun chats together. I really don't know why my family just shouts at me without reasons.

I want to have a good heart too. I always think I am not a kind-hearted person. Sometimes, when my classmates get sick, I will feel happy. So, my dear Santa, can you help me become a good girl?

I also want to have a clean house. I am sad that my home is always in a mess. Can you give me the magic of cleaning the house with just a blink of my eye?

Hope that you will make my dreams come true!

Sheren

A Letter Of Advice

Chan Ho Yin F.3

Dear Sarah,

Sorry to hear that you have been suffering from anxiety at work for some time. I have found a website giving practical tips dealing with anxiety at work. I hope you'll find it useful.

My first piece of advice is that you should give yourself plenty of time to get ready for work. That can help you work efficiently and effectively. Also, you ought to make detailed plans to help you complete every task assigned.

Secondly, I think you should have a healthy diet. Eat more fruits and vegetables but less junk food. This can help you stay healthy and alert. Besides, don't skip meals or else you cannot get enough nutrition to keep you refreshed.

Next, I think you should ask your colleagues for help when needed. Don't be shy! They may give you some constructive comments and suggestions especially if they are well-experienced. They can teach you what to do before you get into troubles.

Finally, I suggest you should take small breaks even when you are busy. This will keep you relaxed, so you can get recharged and can then do your utmost to acquire excellence. Moreover, thinking positively is also of great importance. If you don't, you won't be energetic enough to overcome challenges facing you. So, keep thinking positively!

I hope this advice helps. Please write to me again if you need any more help.

Regards,

Chris

A Letter Of Advice

Lee Tsoi Yiu F.4

Dear Stressed-teen,

It must be hard when you find yourself being compared to others, especially when you are having a lot of stress recently. Let me share with you some tips to make things better.

Many teenagers are stressed out these days. A good way to reduce stress is to do sports. Running, for example, is a popular sport that everybody can try. Also, you may join activities such as the Dance Club and the Art Club where you can make friends with similar interests. Having enough sleep is an effective way to reduce stress too, as your brain is recharged while your body is refreshed. Listening to music is another surefire method to beat stress, whether it is pop music, soft music or lively music. Pop music can lift your mood and boost your happiness. Don't forget to use good study techniques such as making a schedule and dividing difficult contents into parts.

You mentioned that you had nobody to talk to about your problems. I think a writing blog helps because you can share your thoughts and feelings. Try to talk to senior form students who have experienced the same challenges as you do. They are usually more mature and caring than schoolmates of your age. Call teenager support hotlines too, if you do not want people to know who you are. They will protect your privacy.

I understand that your brothers are smart at school, but everybody has different talents. You must have something you are good at. You just have to look harder to find it. Don't feel intimidated by your brothers. Focus on your strength. Every life has its path. Walk your own path confidently and be brave. Trust yourself. Good luck!

Best wishes,

Dr. M

A Letter Of Complaint

Cheung Hei F.5

Dear Sir,

I am writing to express my strong dissatisfaction with your hotel's service. There are three issues I would like to address.

My first complaint is that your hotel did not prepare enough varieties of food. That was so boring. Thus, I was still hungry after the buffet. That was a really bad experience. We had told your staff to fix the problem, but nothing was done. I think you should pay more efforts in adjusting the varieties so that your guests can fully enjoy it. The limited amount of food would also give a bad impression to your customers.

Another problem was that your food was not fresh and the taste was strange. Maybe your chefs did not use fresh vegetables and meat. That made me sick. If you do not have the problem fixed, many people may suffer and it will badly damage your hotel's reputation.

In addition, your staff did not show a friendly attitude. When we asked for help, they just ignored us. We complained to the manager and told him what happened. He just did nothing to resolve the problem.

All the above gave me a really horrible experience, so I demand an apology and a full refund. Hope you would make necessary arrangement. If I do not receive a satisfactory reply, I will report to the authorities.

Yours faithfully,

Chris Wong

A Letter To The Editor

Chung Kwan Wa F.5

Dear Editor,

I refer to Mr. Sunny Wong's article which claimed dogs as messy and dangerous animals. However, I strongly disagree, so here are my arguments.

First of all, Mr. Wong stated that dogs are dangerous. What made him think so? Just because dogs have sharp teeth and a powerful jaw does not mean they must bite people. Actually many are mainly kept as pets which are loyal and adorable. Surely, even trained dogs may attack people, I am well aware of it, but dogs usually won't bite unless they feel frightened or being provoked. They would bark fiercely. They might even bite the intruders. It's merely self-defense and yet Mr. Wong claimed them as dangerous monsters. Dogs that are infected with rabies on the other hand, I'd have to agree, are indeed dangerous. However, not only dogs can catch rabies, for instance, cats, monkeys, hedgehogs and many other animals can be or have been infected before. Therefore, dogs aren't as dangerous or terrifying as Mr. Wong made them out to be.

Secondly, Mr. Wong also accused dogs as messy. True, dogs, even trained ones, can be messy at times, but it is just their playful nature. Owners need to take their pets out to play with so that they can be great companions of humans. Most people shouldn't want a pet that just sits in the same spot day and night, since that would be boring and it would also take away the pet's rights, so all pet owners should be responsible not keeping a messy but playful pet. Besides, what animals aren't messy?

Lastly, if dogs are banned to be kept as pets in Hong Kong, I'm certain that a lot of dogs would go astray. Besides, people won't adopt dogs from animal protection centers anymore. Thus, it worsens the problem of wild dogs roaming around the city and in the worst case, dog lovers would either bombard the government or break the laws to keep their beloved dogs.

I hope that Mr. Wong can realize that dogs are nice and loyal to their owners, so they should remain as pets. The ones we really need to ban as pets are crocodiles, monkeys and bears. They are rarely kept as pets but there have been cases that those pet owners were being hurt.

Yours truly,

Chris Wong

Lost In The Mountain

Wong Cheuk Lam F.1

Use the ideas from the pictures, create a story to tell what happened.

What happened?



illustrations of.com #1183234

Junior Forms

Stories

One day, I went hiking with my friends. Suddenly, a big rock fell on my head. Then I was in a coma.

When I woke up, I was in a forest. I saw some fruits. Since I was hungry, I used my penknife to cut some to eat. All of a sudden, a snake jumped out from the grass. I ran and ran. The snake kept following me. At that time, my necklace started glowing.

Within a second, I was in another place. It was a strange planet. I saw some plants and zombies. The plants had two feet and the zombies looked funny. They were wearing sun-glasses, blue clothes and some funny shoes. Each shoe had a fish attached onto it. Suddenly, a big green zombie jumped out. When it was about to hit me, my magic necklace was glowing again.

This time, when I woke up, I saw myself in a hospital. My family and friends were crying. When they saw me awake, they were very happy, jumping up and down. They said, "You have been in a coma for five days! We all are so worried about you! We thought you would not wake up again! Thank God! You are back!"

All of a sudden, my necklace started glowing again. Oh! Please don't take me anywhere this time!

Knock! Knock! Knock!

Yen Tai Ming F.2

Someone knocked at the door again. Now that my mum had come back and the pizza man had gone. Who would have knocked at the door? We were scared. Time seemed to have stopped and the air went still. My mum put down the pizza and went to open the door.

A man with a hunchback was standing there in the dark. His chin was covered with an overgrown beard. His hair was long and dirty. His clothes were in tatters. He looked like a beggar. He was crying.

My mum cried too and hugged the man. “I know you will come back! I miss you so much! And our son, Joey too!” said my mum.

“Me too!” whispered the man, shivering.

This man was my father! I couldn’t believe it. My mum never said much about my father. I remembered him telling me stories when I was little. Then he was gone and never came back.

My mum took him into the house, and my father collapsed. Mum was shocked. I called for the ambulance.

In the morning, my father woke up. He fainted yesterday because he was too tired and excited. He started to tell us his story. While I was studying in kindergarten, he went on a hiking trip up a peak in Hong Kong. He slipped and fell off a cliff into the sea. He floated onto an island and had been living on that island since then. Hong Kong was a busy city with millions of people, but he was unlucky. He landed on an island where there was nobody.

My father, who was a successful businessman, did not know how to swim. His phone was lost in the sea. Life was tough on the island. Finally, after a typhoon, a deserted boat was drifted onshore and my father paddled back to Kowloon.

That night, my father said to me, “Good night my son! I want you to learn swimming which is one of our survival skills.”

You Are Never Too Old To Live Your Dreams

Lam Tsz Ho F.6

“Grandpa, I want to hear more about your heroic stories in World War II!” asked Summer, excitedly.

“Uh, Summer, I told you all ‘bout it yesterday already,” answered Summer’s grandpa, Rick, smiling.

“Then, what kind of jobs did you do when you were young?”

“Let me see, a bell-boy, a taxi driver. I also delivered food. Then I worked as a newspaper editor...”

“Hmmm, they sound boring. What’s your dream job then, Grandpa?”

That made Rick stop smiling. He thought deeply before giving his response.

“A scientist.” Rick said heavily.

“Wow, that’s cool! Were you a scientist?” said Summer, her eyes shining with excitement.

“Of course I was! I made countless inventions!” said Rick, telling a lie to entertain his granddaughter.

“Wow, Oh no! I got to go, Grandpa. Mama and Daddy are waiting for me to have dinner. See you and tell me about your story next week!” she said, rushing out the door and blowing Rick an air kiss.

As the door shut, Rick was all alone again, sitting on his noisy, old chair that wobbled. He looked up at the ceiling and began to think. “I wanted to be a scientist so badly,” he thought. Then he started to blame himself for not pursuing his dream when he was able. But it was all too late.

“Time for dinner, I guess.” Rick said to himself. He walked to the kitchen, grabbed yesterday’s leftovers, and put it inside the microwave. However, the microwave didn’t turn on as he pressed the button.

“Hmm, looks like it’s Rick, the scientist’s show time!” he said to himself confidently.

With no experiences of mechanics or wiring work, he cracked the microware open but did not know what to do. He decided to rewire the cables by following his intuition. Surprisingly, he finally fixed the microware. He amazed even himself.

From that moment, he sparked his interest in science once again. He began to read books about simple inventions and the scientific theories behind them. Besides fixing his own electronics, he started modifying them, and then he tried

simple robotics. Even though he was already seventy, he was still a fast learner and eager to learn. A few days later, he came up with a crazy idea, a portal gun.

“With the mix of molecular ion, anion and cation, it would combine as a gas-like liquid when being electrified. And that liquid would bend the space around it and create a black hole that leads to somewhere else,” he said, while inserting a tube of green fluid into a simply wired device powered by three AAA batteries.

As Rick pressed the trigger on the gun, a mysterious gas was released. Rick threw a pencil towards the gas and as the pencil made contact with the gas, it turned purple and evaporated, disappearing into thin air.

“Yes!” he yelled, jumping up and down. “Now I just need to find a way to control the black hole.”

After some in-depth mathematics, Rick injected 2-3mg of PCDDs into the fluid. This time, he released a gas which allowed him to pass through the portal, making sure to keep one foot remaining in his laboratory.

Then Rick took the deepest breath of his life and ran towards the black hole, shouting “Here we go!” Before he had time to realize it, he had arrived at Summer’s home.

“Grandpa? How did you get here?” she yelled as she ran towards Rick, wanting to hug him.

“With my portal gun, honey. I’m a scientist, remember?”

“Wow! You’re so cool, Grandpa!”

“Now, let’s go to my house and I’ll tell you the story of Rick, the scientist.” he said while drawing the gun out of his pocket and releasing a huge cloud of gas.

“Some men see things as they are and ask why. Others dream things that never were and ask why not,” said Rick, quoting George Bernard Shaw.

No matter how old you are, you can always achieve your dream. Just have the will for it and nothing can stop you, not even nature.

A Restaurant Review

Woo Yi Ching F.1

Name of restaurant: Hello Kitty Chinese Cuisine

Location: Jordan, Kowloon

Price: \$ 101 - \$ 200

Type of food: Chinese

Taste: ★★★★★

Decorations: ★★★★★

Service: ★★

Price: ★★★

I went to this restaurant because I love novel dim sum. However, the place was not easy to locate and I have looked for it for a long time. Luckily, when I went inside, I was completely attracted by the Hello Kitty decorations.

We ordered some inspiring dishes in the menu including shrimp dumplings, pork buns and glutinous rice. The appearances of the dim sum looked so adorable and also very delicious. The food was suitable for me as they were bland, but my mum thought that the rice was too dry.

The waiters and waitresses were impatient. There were only two people working in the restaurant. Every time when I asked for service, the manager asked me to wait but did nothing.

I do not really recommend this restaurant to others, because the food is just so common and the service is bad.

A Film Review

Tse Tsz Hin F.2

Fast and Furious 8 is one of the best action movies in 2018. It stars Mark Sinclair, the Rock and some other famous actors. This movie is about cars and actions.

The hero is a car racer. His boss wants him to do something bad. If he does not obey, his boss will kill his family. Once while he is still struggling with what he is ordered to do, his boss has already killed his family. The hero gets so angry and he vows to take revenge on the merciless boss. The film has a lot of action scenes that show how the hero hunts down the murderer of his beloved ones.

The movie is set in different places like New York, London, Australia ... The music is cool and impressive. The acting is superb and awesome.

You should definitely love watching Fast and Furious 8, especially if you like great actions, gorgeous cars and courageous heroes. It will have you on the edge of your seat until the very end and I am sure you will regret if you miss it.

TALKS OF THE CITY

Topic: One In Four Hongkongers Deprived Of Basic Necessities

The best way to reduce poverty is to provide education or training to the poor people and provide them with employment opportunities.



Chan Yuk Yu F.4

Our government should provide more low-cost housing, introduce a universal pension scheme and review the minimum wage every year to improve the quality of people's lives.



Lee Tsoi Yiu F.4

Knowledge is power. It changes our destiny. Let the children receive good education. It helps to solve the problem of inter-generational poverty.



Shum Hau Ting F.5

The most deprived group in Hong Kong is the working poor. Their essential items include having three meals a day, affording new clothes once a year and going out with family or friends once a month.



Tang Ho Wai F.5

Topic: Scrap The Annoying Rules

What bothers me most is that male students' hair can't touch their eyebrows, not even a little bit. So, I have to cut my hair very often. It wastes my time and money.



Cheung Ka Ho F.4

Why can't we bring our mobile phones to school? Phones can function as learning tools e.g. dictionary apps. They help us learn during the lessons.



Fan Yayin F.4

It's absurd that we are not allowed to go to school wearing our sports uniforms on the days we have PE lessons. It's very inconvenient. This rule should be scrapped.



Lau Yin F.4

Let us eat in class! Eating helps sleepy students stay awake. To stay energized, we need refreshments.



Lee Shing Fung F.5

Wicked Cinderella

Wong Cheuk Lam F.1C (Champion)

Cinderella had been living with her mother and father happily. After her mother's death, her father married another woman who had two daughters. They were older than Cinderella. Her stepmother and stepsisters were very kind and thoughtful. If they got any food or presents, they would let Cinderella choose first. They would never forget Cinderella's birthday. They would buy many presents for Cinderella. However, Cinderella was not satisfied. She just thought that it was normal for them to treat her well. Why did Cinderella act like this? Because Cinderella was spoiled by her parents when she was small.

One day, they received a letter from the prince. The message was "I would like to invite all unmarried women to my party. However, you have to be very rich with servants, farms and houses. If I choose you to be my wife, you will become the queen of the Kingdom of Greed". Cinderella was very happy. She took her stepmother's jewelry, her elder sisters' beautiful dress and shoes. Cinderella dressed up beautifully. She took a carriage to the castle with her two stepsisters. When they arrived, they saw the prince.

One of her stepsisters said, "The prince is smelly and dirty. I think we should not dance with him."

However, Cinderella did not listen to her. She ran quickly to the prince and said, "Can I dance with you, Prince?"

The prince said, "You look so pretty, but how many servants, farms and houses do you have?"

Cinderella replied, "I have ten barrels of jewels, twenty hectares of farmland, thirty houses and forty servants."

The prince asked, "How about these two girls? Are they your servants?"

Cinderella said, "Yes, they are." The two got married soon.

Since then, Cinderella had become very ambitious and she even wanted to take over the Kingdom of Greed. Finally, she sent the king to prison and changed the name of the country to the Kingdom of Beauty. She was the first empress in history.

Power of Love

Choy Ga Mei F.1C (1st runner-up)

Once upon a time, there was a pretty girl called Cinderella. Although she had a pretty appearance, she was actually an evil girl. Originally, she was a nice and pure girl. However, she was struck by her parents' divorce. Also, her father always got drunk and her stepmother treated her badly. Therefore, she turned into a wicked person.

When she was in a bad mood, she would bully her stepsisters. For example, she would ask them to do the housework, tore their dresses or added some chili oil to their drinks.

One day, Cinderella received an invitation card from the prince. She was so excited. She prepared a beautiful long dress and went to see the prince. When they saw each other, they fell in love at first sight. The prince chatted with her for the whole night. Soon they got married and lived together happily. After marriage, Cinderella became a nice girl again because of the power of love.

Three Magic Pigs And The Wolf

Ng Ka Sing F.1B (2nd runner-up)

Once upon a time, there were three pigs who knew magic. However, they were not good at using it.

One day, they had to build their houses on their own. The Big Pig used magic to build a wooden house in an hour. The Second Pig built another one in a day. The Third Pig built a brick house in three days.

A wolf came to their village. He wanted to eat all the pigs because he was extremely hungry. The three pigs saw the wolf coming and ran back to their houses. The wolf used magic and created a strong wind to blow down the Big Pig's house. It succeeded. The Big Pig was frightened and he quickly ran to the Second Pig's house. The wolf chased after him. Then the wolf used his magic to set the wooden house on fire. It immediately started burning. Hence, the two pigs had to rush to the Third Pig's house. The wolf tried to use magic to create a tornado to destroy the house. The three pigs jointly worked together to fight back.

Finally they won! From the incident, we learn that working together is always better than being alone.

A Strange Creature Dossier

Kwok Natalie F.2B (Champion)



Smiley Flame

Appearance:

Smiley Flame is a scary creature. It has a big creepy smile on its face that makes you feel uncomfortable. It sometimes makes harsh sounds to scare enemies away. Indeed, the scariest part of it is that when you look into its red glowing eyes, it shows your innermost fear that is hidden deep inside your heart.

Encounter with the creature:

It was late at night and I was looking for water and a place to sleep in the woods. It was freezing out there and the atmosphere was very strange.

I walked for a while and saw a river. I set up a tent there. I felt like someone was watching me. I did not care too much at that time. Then I sat near the campfire and started to record my video diary.

Suddenly, I heard some creepy laughter. I turned on my flashlight. A black shadow ran quickly near me and broke my flashlight. I grabbed my rifle and looked around, but nothing was there.

I was panic when I saw a pair of red glowing eyes. I tried to shoot it, but it disappeared quickly. Then I heard the creepy laughter again. I looked back, but suddenly it was in front of me. At that time, I was wondering what it was. It was not an animal. It was more like a flame that had come alive. It was so spooky!

It glared at me and started smirking. Its jagged teeth made it look creepier. Then it started to scream. Its screeching sound hurt my ears a lot. As I looked into its eyes, I saw my biggest fear inside me. I could not calm myself down at that moment and I was petrified! It really freaked me out and then I fainted.

When I woke up, I was lying inside my tent safe and sound. I thought it might just be a dream but then I heard that creepy laughter again.....

A Strange Creature Dossier

Au Ching Tung F.2C (1st runner-up)

Bobby



Appearance:

Bobby is a cuddly and lovely creature. He has one big eye and two strands. His claws are small but ideal for digging. His legs are also small but agile, so Bobby can run away from predators.

Bobby can go invisible when there is an attack. When he is happy, he can turn into a disco ball.

Encounter with the creature:

It was early in the morning when I was walking in the forest, hoping to find a way out and returned to the Earth.

The forest looked peaceful. I started singing and opened a packet of chips to eat. Suddenly I saw a flash of light in front of me and then disappeared. I was curious and tried to find out what it was. After walking for a while, I was very tired. I sat down under a tree and fell asleep.

When I woke up, I was shocked to see a strange creature standing in front of me. I was about to run away but then the creature held my hands and talked to me. “Don’t be afraid! I won’t hurt you. I just want to help you.” Then, it took me to the top of a volcano and said, “Just think about where you want to go and jump into the volcano and you will be there right away.”

Believe it or not, I did it. I started my journey back to the Earth.

A Strange Creature Dossier

Lo San Ting F.2D (2nd runner-up)



Bolettephy

Appearance:

Bolettephy is a dainty, petite elf. It has a pair of pointed ears like a rabbit. It can't talk but it can make a few creepy sounds like the wind. It can help you realise your dreams with its magic wand.

Encounter with the creature:

One night, I was sitting by the window when a beam of light crept under the curtains. A very tiny object emerged from the light gradually. I looked at it closely. Gosh! It was an elf.

“Do you believe in the elves that can make dreams come true? Do you believe in the wonder of the stars and the moon? Do you believe in the magic from the elves? If you do, they will be there to watch over you. Look! With just a wave of my wand, I will make your dreams come true,” said the elf. I made a wish at once. I hoped my dog would come back.

The next day, I heard some noises from the sitting room. It was my dog. It was unbelievable indeed!

Night At The Museum

Lee Wai Shan F.3D (Champion)



- Book title: Night at the Museum
Author: Milan Trenc
Main characters:
a. Larry Daley
b. Nicky
c. Erica

The story

Larry Daley got a new job at the Museum of Natural History. In there were many statues of pre-historic animals and famous people from the past. Larry soon discovered that since the arrival of the Tablet of Ahkmenrah, the museum's exhibits came to life and caused havoc for him every night. The old night guards did not tell him this. Larry found out the secret himself. He did not quit the job but he regarded it as the best one in the world because every night he had a big party with all the animals and famous people from history.

Why do you like the book? What is your favourite part of the book? Why?

I like the book because I like sci-fi stories and movies. I am most interested in the part where all the statues of pre-historic animals and famous people in the past came alive. Larry walked through the museum. He was very happy. All the people and animals were happy, too. Every night was a big party! It was the best job in the world.

What have you learnt from the book?

The moral of the story is that we should learn how to overcome challenges. We must stay calm and think carefully, just like Larry in the story. He had a lot of problems. He had no job. He couldn't pay for his flat. But at last, he had the best job in the world.



The Amazing Adventures Of Idle Jack

Lin Hui Bing F.3C (1st runner-up)



Book title: The Amazing Adventures of Idle Jack

Author: Robert Leeson

Main characters:

- a. Jack
- b. Jack's mother
- c. Esmerelda

The story

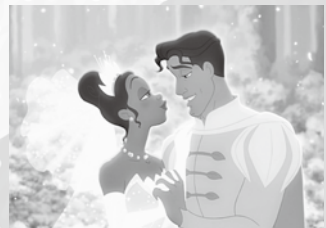
This story was about a boy called Jack who always spent the whole day idling around. He always smiled and never disagreed with others because his mother told him to do so. Everyone liked Jack because of his easy-going character and he became the most popular student at school. When he grew up, he was forced to earn a living, but he fell asleep easily. His boss scolded him but he kept smiling. As a result, he didn't achieve much in his career. Surprisingly, he was chosen by a princess to be her husband in the end.

Why do you like the book? What is your favourite part of the book? Why?

I like the book because the plot is quite unexpected and interesting. My favourite part of the book is when Jack went to work at a farm, his mother told him to wrap the money with a hankie. He only got a jar of milk as his pay, but he still did what he was told and poured the milk into the hankie and of course the milk just spilled out everywhere. This incident showed how stupid and inflexible Jack was!

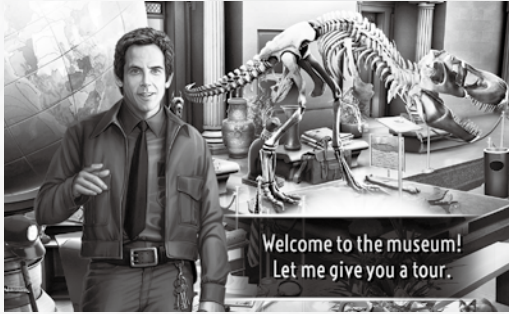
What have you learnt from the book?

After reading this book, I have learnt that we should not just blindly follow what others say. We need to think carefully and sensibly, then make the correct judgement. Therefore, we can avoid making mistakes when we face any new challenges. It is also important for us to have a kind heart like Jack and treat others with respect and empathy.



Night At The Museum

Law Ka Lok F.3D (2nd runner-up)



Book title: Night at the Museum

Author: Milan Trenc

Main characters:

- a. Larry Daley
- b. Nicky
- c. Erica

The story

Larry Daley was very happy about his new job at the Museum of Natural History. But on his first night, something very exciting happened. Everything in the museum came alive! The old night guards didn't tell him this. And they didn't tell him the secret of the Tablet of Ahkmenrah. Larry found out the secret at last. However, he loved working there and he thought it was the best job in the world.

Why do you like the book? What is your favourite part of the book? Why?

I like this book because Larry had been so devoted to make the museum the best one in the world. My favourite part of the book is when Larry found out the secret of the Tablet of Ahkmenrah. The yellow light, coming out of the Tablet, had made everything in the museum come alive.

What have you learnt from the book?

I have learnt a lot from this book. Larry never gave up when facing difficulties in his life. He was unemployed so he couldn't pay for his flat. He loved his son and wanted to spend more time with him. Finally he decided to work as a night guard in a museum. It was very frightening working there at first, but eventually he could overcome all the difficulties and regarded it as the best job in the world.



Helen Keller

Lau Yin F.4A (Champion)

Everyone might be influenced by different things and people at different stages of life. I was lucky enough to have met Helen Keller through books that I read earlier in my childhood.

Helen Keller was famous as a writer. When she was a child, she lost her eyesight and hearing because of a serious disease. Since then, she could not speak anymore. She became irritable and felt really frustrated in life. Luckily, after few years, she met a teacher who influenced her a lot. From that time onwards, she started learning and eventually graduated from university. She then gave public speeches and traveled around the world to let people know more about deaf-blind people. In the end, she became the most famous handicapped person in the world during the first half of the 20th century.

After reading her stories, I was amazed by her legendary life. Although she could not see and hear, she still worked hard and used her strong determination to face the challenges. Keller's stories encouraged lots of people. I am one of them. I know that it is vital for me to keep fighting when I encounter any problems. No obstacles would stop me from moving forward.

I still remember when I was a primary school student, I always gave up when I had troubles. I always thought they were too difficult for me to handle. As a result, it had become a bad habit and I could not have any successful experiences of my own. However, after I read "Three Days to See", written by Helen Keller, I realized that my attitude was extremely wrong. Since then, I started to work hard. Now, I believe that although there are many obstacles in our lives, there are always ways to get rid of them.

Tso Sing Yu

Ho Chi Fai F.4B (1st runner-up)

I believe all of us will be inspired by different people at various time intervals. They may be politicians, historians, scientists or even our family members. The one special person that inspires me the most is a professional boxer. He is Rex Tso Sing Yu.

Rex is a boxing athlete. He is nicknamed “The Wonder Kid”. He is Hong Kong’s first boxer to gain recognition on the world stage and he has fought twenty-two professional boxing matches since 2011 and won them all.

Do you know why Rex has become the most influential person in my life? It is because he has never thought of giving up no matter how severely injured he was in the competitions. Even when his nose got hurt or eye became swollen, he did not surrender. He continued till the end. So he is my role model.

Before I knew about Rex, I was a person who gave up easily. If I encountered difficulties, I would give up without a second thought. I was afraid of facing failures. After learning from Rex, I have changed. His determination to win has inspired me a lot. From then onwards, I have tried my very best to overcome any challenges ahead. Even if I fail, I believe that I have learnt from my mistakes and surely I would experience success one day.

Rex’s perseverance and determination to succeed have made me realize that as long as I have tried, I won’t regret in the future.

Melinda Gates

Fan Yayin F.4A (2nd runner-up)

Melinda Gates is the woman who has supported Bill Gates unconditionally over the years. When Bill Gates became the richest man in the world, she also became one of the most influential women in the world. Melinda graduated from Duke University with an MBA, and soon she became an executive. After she married Bill Gates, she became a full-time housewife. However, her story doesn't stop there. Melinda and Bill set up and chaired the Gates Foundation, the largest foundation in American history. She is a famous and capable person. She is a renowned representative of successful modern women.

Melinda is a low-profile philanthropist. More than ten billion dollars have been donated by the Gates Foundation so far. It is no exaggeration to say that she donates millions of dollars a year. That's enough to feed and clothe tens of thousands of people. We are lucky to have a comfortable life but more than one billion people are living in poverty. What's more, the foundation is also funding AIDS prevention and treatment, malaria vaccines, and the protection of the rights of women and children.

“Over the past decade or so, I have seen the power of charity. And in the longer term, we will see more of the power of charity.” Melinda once said.

From a woman's point of view, Melinda Gate is graceful and generous. She is also a great woman who quits her job after marriage to become a mother of three. Brought up in a warm and well-educated family, Melinda has grown up to be caring and bears the mission to help those in need. She would make countless phone calls or fly for more than a dozen hours to persuade the rich to donate. That is Melinda!

Melinda Gates is the role model of modern women. She demonstrates to us that we have to follow our dreams. Her determination and persistence show us that we will succeed as long as we keep trying.

Overprotective Parents

Law Man Ting F.5A (Champion)

Dear Editor,

I refer to your editorial “Overprotective parents — like or dislike?”. I totally agree with you that overprotective parents have a bad influence on children. Those parents are usually called the “Helicopter parents”. They hover overhead, overseeing their child’s life.

It is human nature for parents to protect their children. However, it shouldn’t be too extreme or else it may lead to some negative effects. Firstly, children will be too weak to handle any problems. At home, overprotective parents may constantly be watchful. Even when their children have a simple fall that produces no distress, they will immediately run to help.

Children don’t have to do chores or even wash their own faces. Parents or domestic helpers will be serving them. What children have to do is just to pursue academic excellence. Hence, children may have difficulties in school as parents may not be able to protect their children all the time. It may lessen children’s chances of taking on responsibilities, not to mention challenges. They cannot bear the consequences of failures and they cannot cope with the outside world.

Secondly, overprotective parents may arrange many programmes and tutorial classes for their children, which make students stressful. Not only will they lose their leisure time, but also feel disgusted with studying. Learning is supposed to be entertaining and joyful. However, it is ruined by those parents.

Some may think that overprotective parents can prevent children from being hurt both physically and psychologically. But I strongly disagree to this. When children grow up, it’s time for them to find a job and settle down. At this time, they will have to get in touch with others in the society. Since during their childhood, they were overprotected and won’t be able to acquire any proper social skills, they may suffer terribly when they enter the job market.

To sum up, letting children face some problems might be good for them. Parents who overprotect their children should think thoroughly whether it will be good for their children’s development. Will they grow up to be independent and responsible? Parents should learn to let go.

Yours faithfully,

Chris

Overprotective Parents

Li Cheuk Wai F.5A (1st runner-up)

These days, an annoying type of overprotective parents, so called “Monster parents” or “Helicopter parents” are roaming around with their children to provide for their various needs while making unreasonable and ridiculous claims about everything. I would like to explore why this happens and what the consequences will be during their reign of monstrosity.

Those overprotective parents think that their kids are fragile and thus they will do anything to protect them, even when their children have grown up to be adults. One of the reasons is due to Hong Kong’s falling birthrate, so many families have only one child who of course will get all the best from their parents. Hence, they become so spoiled that they can’t cope with changes to their lifestyles and most importantly, they can’t look after themselves without the assistance of their parents or domestic helpers. This surely will do more harm than good, as they could mess up everything.

I don’t want to survive if my parents control every aspect of my life, as I prefer having freedom and choices. Being restricted in every aspect of my life means an extremely boring life. Teachers or school authorities may dislike overprotected kids in school, as they would ask for something unreasonable and keep blaming their teachers for being so harsh.

The most absurd incident is that parents may accompany their children for job interviews. Remember, they are no longer small children. Yet, parents are still attending their different needs. Thus, overprotective parents are atrocious and have to be taught to let go of their children in certain circumstances.

Overprotective Parents

Shum Hau Ting F.5A (2nd runner-up)

Parents nowadays tend to be overprotective as Hong Kong is an international financial centre as well as having a knowledge-based economy. Therefore, parents only focus on their children's academic achievement as it will enable their children to acquire a brighter future. Children who are overprotected by their parents may not know how to do the housework, or even don't know how to tie their shoelaces. The situation has become more serious.

Overprotective parents generally want to protect their children from harm and pain— unhappiness, rejection and disappointment. That's why a lot of children are just like the flowers in a greenhouse. They can't stand the strong winds and the heavy rain. When they grow up, they will not know how to solve their problems by themselves.

Overprotective parents always prevent their children from taking high-risk activities such as skateboarding, bungee jumping and climbing. Since they worry that their children may get hurt easily, they often say "We care about you. You shouldn't try it." Some parents may even not allow their children to go into a kitchen, though they have grown into teenagers. The reason is the place is too dangerous or dirty. In fact, that is not true. It's quite inconceivable.

Why do parents overprotect their kids? Because most of them only have one or two kids. They can afford the time and efforts to care for their children. In addition, a lot of overprotective parents in Hong Kong can have enough money to employ domestic helpers. A common phenomenon in China is that parents are obsessed with the wish of their child's future success. They prefer focusing on their children's academic success, so they never let their children do the housework since it is useless and time-consuming. If their kids can be admitted to a prestigious university, they will earn a lot of money. That's why they overprotect them and keep arranging tutorial classes to boost their children's academic achievement.

Unfortunately, many problems may arise. Firstly, children may not be able to build a good relationship with their parents. Not every child loves studying and being strictly supervised by their parents. Conflicts may occur frequently. Moreover, when they grow up, they may be eager to explore the outside world. They want to try something challenging or attempt extreme sports. At this time, if their parents still insist that those are unsuitable and children may get hurt easily, the children may feel annoyed and they may not be able to get along well with one another. In fact, children may not appreciate it if their parents do everything for them.

They'll not have the chance to learn appropriate life skills. Sometimes, even though they have made a mistake, their parents would forgive them and won't punish them. When they grow up and leave their so called "Greenhouse", I believe that nobody is willing to make friends with them.

Secondly, teachers may not like students who lack independence and those overprotective parents. I remember when I was in form five, my teacher shared her experience about some form one students who still didn't know how to tie their shoelaces. She was shocked. That is unbelievable as it is a basic skill. Furthermore, when these children break the school rules, their overprotective parents may blame the teachers for being so harsh. That is quite unreasonable.

Thirdly, employers nowadays may not only focus on their employees' academic achievement, but also their working attitude. In recent years, more and more employers have expressed their grievances about the young job seekers. It was claimed that they were too egocentric and impolite. Some parents even accompany their children for the interviews. It is incredible.

Hence, parents shouldn't overprotect their children. Let them do anything they want as long as they are on the right track. If they want to cook some food, parents should say "Go ahead". Parents should know they can't stand by their children all the time so the best way to protect their children from being hurt is to teach them some life skills. If they can become independent, they won't be like a fish out of water in the future. They will know how to take care of themselves. Parents also need not worry about them as they have mastered the problem-solving and leadership skills. That's the best gift to their kids.

All in all, parents should let their children grow and learn instead of making them totally reliant on adults. This will be more beneficial to the children's future.

Smart City Must Not Neglect The Environment

Fan Yayin F.4A

Think about this! Can you live in a world without your mobile phone? How much time do you spend every day on the Internet? I believe that people have become dependent on technology. At the same time, people also have established a good relationship with mobile phones. One can't live without a cell phone, right?

Nowadays, we all live in a smart city. Our society is developing rapidly. Due to advancement in science and technology, people's lives have become easier and more convenient. Do you know what a smart city is? The essence of smart city lies in the high integration of information and urbanization. It is the development of urban information to a higher stage in a new generation of information technology development and knowledge-based environment. In our daily lives, we are used to sending messages to our friends and searching for information on tablets or mobile phones. Furthermore, we would like to be updated on the latest news on social networking sites. Even if we are not in the same place with our friends, we can also know how they are getting on. Moreover, we can quickly know the news and understand what is happening in our city. We enjoy the convenience brought by the smart city. Also, the widespread use of communication technology greatly improves the efficiency of the city. People can use their mobile phones to search for all kinds of information to solve their problems anytime and anywhere. We don't have to go out to search for information. What a convenient life it is!

Besides technology, other aspects, for example, transportation and education should also develop in an all-rounded way. Another important condition of a smart city to make people's life more convenient is to find the quickest commuting routes and to stabilize the power supply of water and electricity. Of course, a smart city is not only confined to the development of communication or resources, but to make citizens' lives safer, so that the living standard of citizens can be raised. For example, with a better transportation system, the quality of people's lives has been greatly enhanced as well.

However, with the continuous development of a smart city, many environmental problems have also appeared. For example, with heavy traffic, the emission of pollution causing gases is increasing. When urban development and environmental protection come into conflict, the opinions of society are divided. But I believe that the city development will not stop because of the problematic environmental issues. At the

same time, the government will try its best to do more on environment protection as well.

In fact, in every smart city, there are plenty of people who are trying to protect the environment. In the field of scientific research, scientists are constantly exploring new methods of environmental pollution control. They analyze the main sources of pollution in the atmosphere. It's like investing in an industry, we need to understand the industry thoroughly. Only on the basis of strict scientific analysis can we find the right solution. According to those analytic results, we must solve the major pollution sources reasonably and effectively, and reduce the pollution sources. We should continuously improve the air quality through continuous efforts as we all know that the main source of pollution is the moving cars. However, cars are essential in a smart city. Therefore, the government and different groups will cooperate with each other for the greatest benefit of all. For example, the government actively promote public transport and provide better infrastructure for the public. This encourages citizens to take the public transport system. As a result, the number of private cars on the roads will be reduced, thus reducing carbon emissions. At the same time, the government is also actively supporting sustainable development. For example, it actively promotes green travel. We cannot underestimate how the changes in our lifestyle affect the environment. If everyone can recycle, save electricity, save paper, engage in low carbon travel, our environment can be protected. If everyone takes practical action to respond positively, for example, citizens driving less but cycling more, we will be able to improve the air quality.

Moreover, there are many other problems in the smart city. Nowadays the infrastructure network is well developed. The government support this by ensuring national information security, strengthening the management of consumer markets and so on. All these rely on communication technology.

Business sector also caters to the needs of the public. And for the sake of getting the greatest benefits of a smart city, some business companies will try to explore a sustainable commercial mode. Thus, it can promote the culture and environmental conservation of the city while boosting the economic development. Therefore, government working together with the business sector is one of the best options for the creation of a smart city.

The development of a smart city is not easy. We can only balance between the needs of urban development and environmental protection by the continuous efforts of different stakeholders. Moreover, there are some restrictions when people have to enjoy the convenience brought by the smart city. In a nutshell, in the process of developing a smart city, every citizen has the right to enjoy the convenience brought by the intelligent city and the responsibility to protect the environment.

A Baby In Trouble

Wong Cheuk Lam F.1C

One day, there was a man who had an ugly face and was wearing a jacket with a big yellow star on it on an intercity bus. He was called Tim. He was sleeping, snoring loudly.

At this moment, a baby started crying very loudly. It woke Tim up. Then Tim shouted at the baby's parents. "Your baby is very noisy. Please tell the baby to keep quiet."

The parents said, "Sorry, we can't control our baby. We will try to calm him down." Of course it failed. The baby kept crying.

Tim couldn't stand it any longer and said furiously, "Get out of the bus now."

The parents said, "Ok, we'll get off at the next stop." As the parents were going to get off, Tim stopped them suddenly and said, "You need to give me 1,000 dollars because your baby woke me up."

An argument arose between the parents and Tim. Other passengers also got involved. A policeman passed by. He was asked by the bus driver to come on board the bus to settle the dispute. The policeman asked Tim and the baby's parents to show their ID cards. Tim did as he was told but at this moment, the baby's parents rushed out of the bus. The policeman ordered the two guys to stop running but the parents didn't listen. They kept running even faster and faster. Tim said, "They are kidnappers."

Hearing this, the policeman ran to catch them. The kidnappers were caught and Tim went to the police station to report what happened. Tim then told his story. He said, "While I was sleeping, I saw the two bad guys putting some Hypnotic medicine into the milk to stop the baby crying and to make it sleep. So I thought they were kidnappers. What I could do was to do a lot of things to make the passengers call the police to catch them."

The police praised him. "You have done a great job!" said the police officer.

Tim said, "Thank you. It's my duty to fight against crime."

This story tells us that a person who has an ugly appearance is not necessarily bad. Inner beauty is more important than the outer one. We should not judge a person by his appearance.

Love Is Magic

Lin Hui Bing F.3C

Sarah was born into a rich family. When she was still a lovely girl, she was full of vigor and curiosity about the beautiful world like many others. She was fortunate to be supported by her parents to explore the world herself.

Once she went to a beautiful island and met a man, David. David was outgoing, romantic and considerate and he always made Sarah happy. She found he was definitely matched with her. They soon got married.

After marriage, their life was simple but happy. They settled down on an island and owned a grocery store. Every morning Sarah did the housework and David went out for work. Most of the time in the afternoon they just sat together inside the store and chit-chatted with 2 cups of coffee by their side. Sometimes they shared one of Sarah's favorite books. Sometimes David talked about his interesting adventures which attracted Sarah very much. And they would also prepare little surprises for each other occasionally. David would also give roses to Sarah on Valentine's Day every year. It wasn't an obligation at all, but they had made it a habit.

They didn't have any children, but they supported each other and lived happily for many years. However, life changed one day. David suffered from a serious illness and soon passed away. From that time on, Sarah always felt lonely and became withdrawn and scanty of words.

Sarah still managed their grocery store but there was no smile on her face anymore. People thought she was weird and stayed away from her. Social workers wanted to help but were always being refused.

One day, Sarah went to the supermarket and found it was Christmas. Everyone was excited except Sarah. When she was picking some fruit, a little girl noticed her sad face. The little girl didn't know why she was sad even at Christmas but she really wanted to cheer her up and enjoy the festival, so she came to Sarah and said, "Merry Christmas" in a delightful voice.

Sarah was definitely surprised at first but then she felt extremely warm and touched. The little girl held her hand and told her about her school life, her favourite snacks, her friends and family... Sarah was very pleased. She listened carefully and gave some responses sometimes. Then they soon became friends. The girl introduced Sarah to her mother.

Having heard about Sarah's life, the girl's mother decided to offer help. She visited her with her daughter every week. Sometimes the mother would buy some fruit or bread for Sarah. She even invited Sarah to celebrate festivals like Christmas and Thanksgiving with her family. Today, they're as close as family. When Sarah was sick and weak, they even brought her to their home in order to look after her carefully. Gradually, Sarah became more and more out-going.

Sarah was fully grateful and said, "They have give me another life! I don't have roses but I still have plenty of love."

Caring Of Others' Feeling

Law Man Ting F.5A

With the rapid development of the economy and technology, our lives have become more fast-paced. We are used to eating out, therefore removing the burden of shopping for groceries, doing the dishes and other time-consuming chores.

What is more, people don't even need to leave the comfort of their homes to get restaurant quality food, resulting in a burgeoning takeaway culture. Usually, we order food online for just ourselves or our family. However, a woman named Cheng in Shandong province in Mainland China, ordered food for the delivery men.

At six o'clock in the morning, she ordered nine boxes of xiao long bao for a total of 93.5 yuan. When the delivery men went to the restaurant to collect the order, they saw the remarks on the order which read: "These are the free breakfasts for the first nine delivery men. Thank you for working so hard on such a cold day!" The delivery men felt so warm from her kindness right to the bottom of their weary hearts.

Perhaps it's just a little thing but it means a lot. This selfless action reminds me of another occasion when I was walking down the street. The weather was awful with heavy rain, and I saw a take-out delivery man hurry into a tall building. A man was waiting for him. When he saw the delivery man, he couldn't stop yelling at him.

"Why are you so late! My boss is still waiting for lunch!" he screamed angrily. The delivery man bowed and bowed, saying sorry. But the man was still not satisfied.

"I'm going to complain about you to your supervisor!" he threatened furiously. He then briskly stomped away.

The take-out man stood there for a moment in silence. I walked up to him and saw him trying to hide his tears. He told me that he could only earn 4 yuan with one single order, but a negative comment would deduct 500 yuan from his salary. After hearing this, I felt so upset. All of us in this world suffer daily annoyances, but we cannot just take out our anger on others. Life is tough, however, we ought to be more understanding and always put ourselves in other people's shoes.

And that's why I think the behavior of Cheng is very warm-hearted. She takes care of others' feelings. Sadly, in society nowadays, it's increasingly hard for us to find such an altruistic person. Thus, we should all learn from her. If everyone cares for one another, a better world will be created.

Youth's Future In Hong Kong

Law Man Ting F.5A

Hong Kong is considered a prosperous city with the status of an international financial center. However, there are many problems lurking behind the boom. The biggest one is housing.

Some people might say that purchasing a house is a better way for the youth to have a brighter future because they can then live a stable life. Yet, I disagree. We all know that Hong Kong is a small city with a population of over seven million people. Thus, the house prices have reached an unbelievably high level. According to the Global Property Guide, Hong Kong's residential property price index soared 15.5% during the past few years. However, real incomes have virtually stagnated in Hong Kong for years. It is almost impossible for the youth to buy their own flats as their earning capability is limited.

I suggest they invest more on self-enhancement instead of pursuing a materialistic lifestyle. Living in a knowledge-based society has led to the emergence of a large group of graduates. A survey released recently showed that majority of Hong Kong's fresh university graduates found a job in three months and felt optimistic about their future.

Although the housing problem has become more and more serious in Hong Kong due to scarcity of land, there are still some solutions for graduates to have a comfortable future without having to own a property. Co-living is one such solution. Three or four graduates can live together and pay the rent jointly. This not only lightens the burden for graduates who are looking for jobs but adds more delight to their lives as well. According to the SCMP, co-living has been seen as the answer for students and young professionals in need of affordable housing options in the world's most expensive city for property.

Meanwhile, if graduates are reluctant to share accommodation due to various reasons, they can choose to live in Mainland China to seek a better living environment. I believe there will be a bright future for graduates in Hong Kong as long as they keep upgrading their skills and work smart.