



香港中國婦女會馮堯敬紀念中學



博鳴集

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HKCWC Fung Yiu King Memorial Secondary School

Voice of Erudition 2017

二零一七



【校監的話】

夏日炎炎，蟬鳴滿園，應是果實纍纍的好日子。喜見新一期《博鳴集》的面世，終可細嚐同學筆耕後的豐碩成果。

本校一直以「博學篤志」為教育理念，其中「博學」就是對各類知識的追求，從而開闊眼界，繼而開拓人生。放諸學藝上，「博學」就是靈感的泉源，所有大大小小的學問，都能激發想像，燃點創造美好世界的決心。收錄在新一期《博鳴集》的作品，既有言情細膩，亦有筆鋒尖銳；既有筆觸動人，亦見用語辛辣。我相信這些小作家應是博學多才，因此能輕易信手拈來，用文字勾勒想像中的美好世界，或文以載道，用筆桿創造理想的社會。

《博鳴集》是同學努力的成果，亦是滋養同學創作的養份。它讓大家互相交流、分享心得，同時又激發想像、刺激思考，培育新一批的小作家。期望《博鳴集》在這個優良的生態循環下茁壯成長。

校監

陳蕙婷

《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)

【校長的話】

翻開《博鳴集》，就如同走進一間藝術館。每位藝術家每年都給我無比的驚喜，與平日穿著校服，坐在課室的模樣相比，簡直有如脫胎換骨。同學通過對日常生活的觀察、體驗、選材、加工，提煉生活素材，創作一件件獨一無異的藝術品，呈現獨特的個性。當中有對夢想的憧憬、有對中國文化的反思、有對人生的體會。

我期望同學不要把寫作看成一份功課，而是一件藝術創作。只要認真地投入和享受，你便會有所得著。我們要享受表達自己的所思所感，享受用自己的文字去建構文章，把自己內心深處的小世界一點一滴化為文字。

當然，要創作一件有內涵的藝術品，除了通過對周邊事物的觀察、優美的筆法，還要養成閱讀的習慣。閱讀，當然不單是字句的解讀，而是指同學要體悟作家的情懷，對作品有個人的感受，若能從不同角度分析，加以評論則更佳。靜心閱讀，更能讓我們忘記煩惱，修心養性。

希望同學除了「閱讀」，更能「悅讀」，享受閱讀的愉悅，樂於閱讀，更樂於創作。

校長 孫莉華 博士

【編者的話】

寫作，真的這麼難嗎？有同學一聽到「寫作」二字，就流露一副可憐的模樣，彷彿老師要他登上喜馬拉亞山之巔。可是，只要你不是為了「交差」、「湊字數」，而是把想到的、見到的、聽到的、坦蕩蕩去抒發個人感受，自然會樂在其中。這時，人人都可以隨心所欲地寫、暢所欲言地作。

今年，喜見又有一些陌生的名字載於刊中，亦意味着有更多同學喜愛寫作。初中組徵文比賽的得獎者，文思豐富，幻想坐時光機到達不同的國度，取材不凡；高中組的師兄師姐，則表達對未來的憧憬，理性與感性交織，散放著光彩。

《懷想天空》一欄，不乏新詩創作，當中詠物抒情，言近旨遠，不同凡味。《告訴你，其實我有多軟弱》文情上茂，感人肺腑；《隨遇而安》，又令人產生共鳴，反思人生的意義。

《議論縱橫》一欄，同學立意精闢，理順意明。細心求證，絲毫不苟。《人不可以貌相》、《人生如水》和《功夫下得深，夢想可成真》鼓勵同學凡事靠後天的努力，活出精彩的人生；《論派利是》、《忍還是不忍》及《談談如何消除偏見》引發我們社會問題的反思。

最後，《敘事寫人》一欄，文章詞雅文練，寫景生動。有記敘自身經驗的《記一次令人難忘的學校旅行》和《一件令我進退兩難的事》；《我心目中的超人》，寫人生動，有如躍於紙上。《一條熟悉的道路》和《繁忙時段的鐵路眾生相》寫景狀物，入木三分。《有志者，事竟成》和《放下的收穫》平易近人，貼近生活。

看畢《博鳴集》後，你會發現，寫作，其實不難。

中文科副科主任 韓思麗 老師

編輯委員會

顧問：孫莉華博士

成員：梁鳳儀老師、韓思麗老師、龐名儀老師、何詩詠老師、
嚴甫明老師

鳴謝：全體中文科老師

封面設計：題為《春茶》，由本校國畫班導師及同學共同創作。



【序】

「閱讀」與「寫作」是雙生兒！

冰心：「多讀書，讀好書，然後寫出自己的感想，這是寫好作文的開始。」

我，甚是同意！

透過閱讀，吸取富啟發性的養料，豐富我們的生活體驗，擴闊思考空間，接觸咫尺之遙的大千世界。古人有云：「開卷有益」，杜甫亦言：「讀書破萬卷，下筆如有神。」多閱讀絕對有助寫作！

馮堯敬的同學，這本屬於學子的文集園地，你在當中扮演着甚麼角色？是小作家之一？是熱衷閱讀的粉絲？還是手執文集，一讀再讀的學習者？在我們欣賞榜上有名的小作家之餘，老師更鼓勵你細意咀嚼每篇文章，找出她的靈魂，經歷作者的奇思妙想。當中的故事、體會、論述或許與你類近，又或許給你斬新的觀點角度。這些賺人熱淚的情節、刻骨銘心的片語、愛恨交纏的生態，都是養料，為你的創作之路增添動力！

三毛曾說：「一本好書，以前是當故事看，後來覺着不對，因為年齡不同了，同樣一本書每再重看，領悟的又是一番境界。」

博鳴集，怎會只局限於2017？

來，一起經歷書中任我行的境界吧！

中文科主任 **梁鳳儀** 老師

【目錄】

校監的話、《博鳴集》寓意

校長的話

編者的話、鳴謝

序

徵文比賽得獎

初中組

坐時光機回到童年

坐時光機回到唐朝

假如我能當一天插畫師

高中組

夢想開花並不遠

夢想開花並不遠

那次，我嚐到了成功的果實

懷想天空

告訴你，其實我很軟弱

日記本

松樹頌

紙

霧

仙人掌

隨遇而安

議論縱橫

人不可以貌相

功夫下得深，夢想可成真

人生如水

論派利是

忍還是不忍

談談如何消除偏見

敘事寫人

記一次令人難忘的學校旅行

我心目中的超人

一件令我進退兩難事

一條熟悉的道路

有志者，事竟成

繁忙時段的鐵路眾生相

放下的收穫

不一樣的經歷

校監的話、《博鳴集》寓意	1	鄭梓朗 中三	24
校長的話	2	沈巧婷 中四	25
編者的話、鳴謝	3	紀雪靖 中五	26
序	4	譚淇威 中五	27
徵文比賽得獎		盧志遠 中五	29
初中組		鄭頌瑩 中六	30
坐時光機回到童年	7	黃雅婷 中三 冠軍	
坐時光機回到唐朝	8	范雅茵 中三 亞軍	
假如我能當一天插畫師	9	薛景鏜 中一 季軍	
高中組		區宇軒 中五 冠軍	10
夢想開花並不遠	10	鄭耀鈞 中五 亞軍	12
夢想開花並不遠	12	沈巧婷 中四 季軍	13
那次，我嚐到了成功的果實	13	杜韻曦 中一	15
懷想天空		李蔚珊 中二	16
告訴你，其實我很軟弱	15	林慧冰 中二	17
日記本	16	劉昕 中三	18
松樹頌	17	劉妍 中三	19
紙	18	范雅茵 中三	20
霧	19	廖家彥 中五	21
仙人掌	20		
隨遇而安	21		

徵文

比賽

初中組 冠軍

坐時光機回到童年

黃雅婷 中三

「大兒鋤豆溪東，中兒正織雞籠。最喜小兒無賴，溪頭臥剝蓮蓬。」每當看到辛棄疾的《清平樂》，其中描述的村居生活，總會勾起我童年許多回憶。過往，我總是為逝去的童年而感到惋惜；但如今，我卻可以乘坐時光機，回到我望眼欲穿的童年……

一睜開眼，映入眼簾的是一片清晰的世界。我習慣地托了托眼鏡，卻發現鼻樑上空無一物。想拿起手機看時間，卻發現房間裏只有我的鬧鐘。我皺了皺眉，不得已換上校服，接過媽媽弄好的早餐，上學去了。

渡過了上午，終於迎來了午休。像以往一樣，我和幾個要好的同學在操場上追逐。以前明明熱衷於這種玩樂的，現在卻覺得索然無味。雖然心不在焉地熬過了整個上午，但是放學後卻無事可做。突然，我希望此時能像平常一樣，有作業可做，即便疲憊了，也可以看手機放鬆一下。因為我認為此刻的無拘無束、百無聊賴，對我來說是一種煎熬，讓我不經意地反思這期待萬分、天真爛漫的童年。

第二天，我回到了現在。坐在時光機上，我思索着，我到底是想念童年的無憂無慮，還是只想逃避現在的生活，苟且偷安？

坐上時光機，我回到了唐朝——中國史上最鼎盛的朝代。

回到這個充滿傳奇色彩的朝代，我願是那顆燦爛的明珠——詩仙李白。我會灑脫地掙脫官場，因為「天生我才必有用，千金散盡還復來」；我會去探望與我情如「桃花潭水」的友人汪倫；我會去探望那「風流天下聞」的友人孟浩然；我要與友把酒暢飲，舉杯歡歌。用我的才情、我的瀟灑、我的豁達、我的浪漫，讓世人為之傾倒。

回到唐朝，我願化身為一位玉樹臨風的君子。唐朝，一個美女輩出的朝代，飄逸的女子，美艷絕倫；多才的女子，風華絕代；柔弱的女子，目若秋水。最後誰能贏得我的青睞？窈窕淑女，君子好逑。我希望一睹唐朝的風雲美女；我希望一睹八面玲瓏的貂蟬，她巧妙地運用美人計，在呂布與董卓間周旋；我希望一睹聰慧過人的王昭君，她自願遠嫁匈奴，換來了民族間的和睦；我希望一睹美若天仙的西施，她捨己為國，她的眼神裏總能透露出一股惆悵；我希望一睹能歌善舞的楊貴妃，一位令唐玄宗神魂顛倒的奇女子。她有着傾國傾城的美貌，粉面含春，眼波流轉，顧盼生輝，楚楚可憐。

回到唐朝，我願自己是一代女皇武則天。這個偉大的女人，改變了歷史，叱吒風雲，卻立下無字碑，一個讓人充滿幻想的人物。我願自己是她，我願成為國家的守護者。我會為國家馳騁沙場，為百姓赴湯蹈火。我會將滿目瘡痍的唐朝推向新的盛世。可我不會親手殺了自己女兒，不會殺死蕭淑妃和王皇后，為後代立下道德的榜樣。

坐上時光機，回到唐朝。這一回，在這個璀璨的朝代，我不願再成為一名耀眼的人物。這一回，我願自己只是一位普通的百姓，安居樂業，遠離紛爭。在這個古老的時空裏，平凡地生活——無絲竹之亂耳，無案牘之勞形。古樸的氣息縈繞四周，淡淡的檀香令人陶醉。清晨，簡單梳妝，薄施粉黛。與友踏青，欣賞花紅柳綠。黃昏，鋪紙執筆，輕蘸濃墨。筆歌墨舞，夕陽紅霞相伴。

人生如詩，最美不過如此。

在和煦的午後，我泡了一壺茶，翻閱着書籍。在色彩鮮豔的雜誌裏、在散文詩集的淡雅文字旁、在充滿趣味的繪本中……那一幅幅精美的插畫，令我的眼睛不禁停下「腳步」，細細欣賞。

插畫展現了作者天馬行空的想像，也勾起了我的記憶。我曾看過一幅《夜空》的插畫，讓人沉浸在畫中，久久不能回過神來。那浩瀚的夜空藍得發亮，令人不由自主地生起晚上寂寞的回憶。從此，我便生起一個念頭：如果我能當一天插畫師，我會畫什麼呢？我就這樣沉浸在自己奔放的想像之中。

假如我是插畫師，會帶着畫筆、畫簿和顏料去環遊世界各地，尋幽探秘，將一個個動人的瞬間變成插畫。雖然我們不能讓時間倒流，再次回味那些美好的風光，但我可以將他們記錄下來，利用手中的畫筆，把它們變成色彩鮮豔的插畫，展現在大家的面前。

我想，將美麗、簡樸的畫面變成插畫，幾年之後再看，必定會有不同的感受，會有不同的收穫。

忽然，傳來媽媽的呼喊，我才從幻想中漸漸醒來。如果，我真的可以當一天插畫師，那該多好啊！

夢想：是在你快要停止呼吸的時候，仍覺得必須要做的事。

而我的夢想是世界和平。哈！多麼經典的生日願望。但這願望實現過嗎？

時代巨輪從無間斷地推進，科技日新月異，健力士紀錄一再被打破。唯獨世界和平的目標不但沒有進展，國際間的衝突反而日益嚴重。為何會這樣？皆因人類的惡性漸漸侵蝕這片土地：自我中心、貪婪、欲望……無一不是令世界愈見敗壞的根本原因。要是人類拾回人性的真善美，世界和平這個夢想並不遙遠。

「敘利亞化武襲擊，數百平民死傷」，原本世界沒有那麼紛擾，恐怖襲擊不知從何時開始準時佔據每天新聞報道的頭版內容。起初人類還算有點惻隱之心，對那些傷及無辜百姓的事件感到難過，在痛斥恐怖分子冷血殘忍的同時，亦會想辦法停止戰爭，向受重創的難民伸出援手。後來，卻因發生次數過於頻密，民眾都司空見慣，變得毫不震驚。但作為地球村的一分子，實在不能對這事產生麻木之感。可恨的，是人類自我中心的情感竟相反地膨脹起來，看見它還未波及自身安危，便抱着置身事外的冷漠態度。首先是中東，其次是非洲，然後是歐美……誰能保證下個目標不是亞洲？難道要待炸彈投擲到自己身旁才醒覺嗎？人性的真善美難道只能長留在報紙的顯眼之處，等待每天回收？而不是該在需要它們的地方嗎？

在宇宙開天闢地之時，人性本善，還是人性本惡？除了是古人爭論的問題，也是決定現今世界能否和平的關鍵因素。如果是前者的話，只要人類反璞歸真，懂得無私奉獻、互相包容體諒、拒絕那損害別人的誘惑、珍惜僅有的一切過活等等，這夢想理應唾手可得。反之，如世人只管爭權奪利而埋沒良知，自私自利的做出各種傷天害理的惡行，處處針鋒相對地踐踏他人……就算擁有再多「世界」也和平不了。為何人類的欲望總是人類拾回人性的真善美，世界和平這個夢想並不遙遠。

總不能說世界沒有絲毫和平，亦不能說人性沒有半點美好。若然我們細心觀察一下，仍可找到教人感動流淚的畫面，在這灰暗星球中看見光芒。

就以「大學生捐肝救回陌生媽媽」一事為例，足以證明，良知美善能夠大於自我中心。「能夠以自己的一部分換取他人的全部，絕對值得！」，這就是大愛精神，付出又不求回報。生命拯救生命，何樂而不為？甚至在一些交通意外中，有人願意捨身救人，只求他人性命得以延續。看見嗎？人心可以充滿着愛，無私得如斯地步。在這個混亂的世界，擁有一顆純真的赤子心顯得格外珍貴。意外總是在迅雷不及掩耳的瞬間發生，你會否犧牲自己成全他人？

忙着擁有一切，忘掉了我們原本都一無所有，知足常樂，是老生常談的人生道理，在世上卻沒有什麼人做到。正因為世人過於貪心，世界才會這麼多紛爭。小至個人，大至國家，都沒法和平共存。其實只要我們真誠並互相尊重，通過耐心對話來解決分歧；在滿足自身需求的同時，也給予他人最大利益，從中找一個合理的平衡點，紛爭自會減少。

人性是善是惡，我們有權利去選擇。就從今天開始：對自己要求高一點。為別人多走一步。面對世界的視野廣闊一點，讓身處的地球美好一點，相信世界的種種問題衝突都會迎刃而解。

讓每個人都作出微不足道的改變，集腋成裘，為世界帶來感動和希望。

但願世界和平的夢想，開花，並不遙遠。

「做」夢容易，但「追」夢難，我們每個人都曾經擁有一「離經叛道」的夢。原本這些事能讓我們對人生充滿美好的憧憬，卻被社會主流價值、生活的擠壓、長輩的期望而貶得一文不值。或許，大部分人認為夢想是天馬行空的事，事實卻是，只要願意追求和實踐，定有一個意想不到的結果，燦爛地開花。

夢想看似遙不可及，但只要不斷奮鬥，就能達成。舉例來說，著名作家白先勇以推動文學為自己的夢想，考入台灣成功大學水利工程學系後，以一年重考，轉攻文學。但他的父親白崇禧卻認為文學不切實際，對文學存有成見，指出兒子棄理從文是不切實際。然而，白先勇堅持自己的夢想。他一方面潛心寫作，發表多部經典小說，大獲好評。另一方面，他協助出版雜誌《現代文學》不遺餘力。因為他心中有夢，願意朝着標杆不斷努力，結果成就非凡。可見，只要憑藉毅力與實踐，夢想開花並不遠。

許多人也擁有自己的夢想，但往往糾結於「追夢」難有前景。然而，只要放膽去實踐，說不定有意想不到的成果。以大師錢穆為例，他一向醉心教育，並以教育為自己的理想。但在旁人眼中，那時的教育前景黯淡，因作教育者未能擁有高薪厚職，以教育為業，不如從商或學醫。然而，他依然不顧眾人的眼光，未有放棄自己的夢想。反之，他多次到不同學校任教，以「傳道、授業、解惑」為己任，言教與身教並重。他以身作則，準時上課，旁徵博引，傾囊相授。其後，他教出余英時、嚴耕望等優秀的學生，為承傳文化、作育英才，作出了重大的貢獻。原來，只要別管旁人的冷嘲熱諷，甘於為夢想闖關，它並非想像中多麼的遙遠。

回顧過去的歷史，印證了夢想開花並不遠的例子，比比皆是。馬丁路德金是位黑人牧師。他看見社會上的黑人受盡白人的歧視和壓逼，深感難過。他的夢想是希望世界上沒有種族歧視，黑人白人都能融洽相處。雖然，他的夢想與當時的社會實況是南轅北轍，但他不理會妻子和眾人的勸喻，將夢想化為行動，發動一連串不合作運動，最終改變了對黑人不公的法律，建設種族共融的社會。由此可見，只要經一番幹勁及行動，夢想開花並不遠。

即使是珍珠，也必須在蚌中受盡煎熬，方能成就璀璨一生，教人趨之若鶩；即使是鳳凰，亦要在爐火中涅槃，方能展翅高飛；即使是玉石，亦須久經雕琢，方能變得晶瑩剔透；而我們芸芸眾生，嚮往夢想開花結果的過程中，亦不能因種種困難和挫折而退縮，而應以辛勤的汗水種植出嫣紅姹紫的「花朵」。

那次，我嚐到了成功的果實。派發成績表的日子到了，老師臉上毫無表情，親手把成績表遞給我，令我原本愁眉深鎖的面容，頓時更加不安，擔心自己的成績不升反跌。可是，當我看到成績表上的成績，以及得知自己獲得「學業進步獎」時，便立刻喜極而泣。

正所謂：「一分耕耘，一分收穫。」我非常明白。這一年的我，學業成績實在令人大失所望。這主要歸咎於自己在求學時一曝十寒的心態。於是，現在的我一直急起直追，更犧牲不少娛樂時間，為的就是要趕上原本的學習進度。

學習如逆水行舟，不進則退。當我一直停滯不前，失去努力不懈的學習精神之際，身邊的同窗卻一直力爭上游，廢寢忘餐地沉浸於知識的殿堂之中。這便可能會造成我與他們之間望塵莫及的距離。幸好，我懸崖勒馬，將勤補拙，每天認真地溫故知新，並且把自己不懂的知識羅列出來，尋根究底。每當遇上自己真的不能解決的問題時，便虛心請教同學及老師。他們都願意傾囊相授，循循善誘地教導我，我亦因此與他們成為莫逆之交，並會每週相約一起學習英文。終於，皇天不負有心人，我的成績也開始穩步上揚。

或許，每個人對於成功的定義皆不盡相同，標準亦因人而異。但在我眼中的成功是很容易理解的。那便是一——只要我站起來的次數，比我倒下去的次數多一次，就是成功。我深信，在人生的漫漫長路中，總是福禍相依，有悲有喜。重要的是自己要好好調節心態，吸收經驗。時刻銘記：「勝不驕，敗不餒。」所以，現在的我比曾經的我有所進步。同時，獲得「學業進步獎」，也確實是對現在處於低潮的我一個肯定及鼓勵。雖然，此刻的我仍沒有達到自己的要求，認為自己在各個科目上仍有很大的進步空間；但是我會盡我所能，取得比這次更大的成功，不再辜負身邊所有人的期望。

記得曾有人說：「每個人的一生中，都有各式各樣的『盆栽』需要照顧，其中包括學習、考試等，也包括看電視等娛樂。而每個人每天亦僅有二十四壺水可以澆灌它們，就如同我們每天只有二十四小時一樣。」我想，我之所以能嚐到成功的果實，是由於我在預備考試前的一個月，將大部分的水灌注在考試、學習這些「盆栽」上，所以它們才能茁壯成長，成功開花結果。這亦令我品嚐到成績優異的滋味，考試順利的欣喜。

當我懂得將每天僅有的二十四壺水分配給最重要的「盆栽」，讓它吸收到最多的養分，日積月累，便有機會成一棵參天大樹，結出最美味可口的果實，甚至可能會透過大樹的枝幹繁衍出一個茂密的樹林……

懷想

天空



告訴你，其實我很軟弱

杜韻曦 中一

這個世界大部份人都戴着面具，而我也不例外。

小時候，父母不常常待在我身邊，並非因為他們工作忙碌，而是因為妹妹將要出世。我住在外婆家，由她親手照顧我，而我對母親的印象很模糊。外婆總是無微不至地照顧我，對我寵愛有加，我倆生活得很愉快。媽媽卻對我比較嚴厲，每次來探我的時候，我都只好強忍著，不敢抱怨，不想讓別人知道自己有多委屈。

長大了，我變得比從前更堅強，即使內心感到委屈，也會在人前強顏歡笑，不會流露軟弱的一面。我總能忍受別人的脾氣，很多事情都能熬過去。這不是因為我有多強大，而是所謂的成長而已。我不敢在別人面前流淚，盡量偽裝堅強，其實我也很軟弱，也需要別人關心，很想摘下早已烙印在臉上的面具，因為戴着它，令我感到很累。

我希望憑著自己的努力，將來可以創出屬於自己的天地，也希望跟我的朋友能夠友誼長存，從此忘記面具的存在……

字連字，句連句

心語化為字

笑與笑，淚與淚

句句相連化為心

不論悲憤交織

不論歡笑無盡

一一化成文字

化成薄薄的、厚厚的日記本

靜靜、靜靜待在牆角一隅

悄然、悄然被歲月遺忘

度過許多次朝陽升起

經過無數次夕陽落下

某天心血來潮翻開泛黃紙頁

細望密麻字語

令人回味無窮

令人會心一笑

從古至今，松樹都備受人們讚賞。孔子曾說：「歲寒，然後知松柏之後凋也。」松樹因不畏嚴寒的特質，被稱為「歲寒三友」之一。

我曾親身見識到松的魅力。那時尚未踏入隆冬，但天氣已十分寒冷，強勁的北風叫囂着，馬路兩旁的松樹只有針狀的葉微微傾斜，枝幹卻不為所動。天空飄着雪花，地面、樹上積着一層薄薄的雪。在這環境下，松樹依然怡然自得地在寒風中站立着，堅挺筆直的軀幹散發着生機勃勃的氣息。

松四季長青，沒有桂花樹那芬香的花朵，亦沒有蘋果樹那飽滿的果實。松無論面對甚麼險境都不服輸，堅忍不拔地保持自己的本色，樸素而又正直。多少人以此為目標，又有多少人能夠真正做到？當處於順境時，松依然保持着樸素的作風，不論身邊的伙伴如何花枝招展，它也只是鬱鬱蔥蔥地綠，毫不張揚。

松樹還有很多用處，它是有用的木材，人們常用它製造傢具。不僅如此，它還有食用和藥用價值。松樹一直默默地為人類作出貢獻，發揮自己的價值。

松樹堅毅不屈、持守氣節、萬年長青，集眾多高潔美好的品格於一身，實在值得我們去欣賞和學習。

紙

劉昕 中三

經過了機器的打壓，時間的洗禮
或潔白如玉，一塵不染
或粗糙黯淡，滿目瘡痕
他們的身軀被烙下油墨
任由筆尖在身上跳舞

可別忘了——
要是沒有他們
書法家不能飛龍舞鳳
畫家不能潑墨成畫
要是沒有他們
傳奇的故事不能人人皆知
流芳的詩詞不能動情吟誦

他們無怨無悔，奉獻一生
但請記住——

他們不僅是樹木之身
更是自然之魂



霧

劉妍 中三

清晨的鳥鳴劃破沉寂的天空
一切都籠罩在這霧裏
看！
她環繞在群山上
像極了閨土脖子上的銀項圈
太陽就要出來了
可她似乎戀上了故宮的雄偉
久久不肯離去
要皇帝和文武百官焚香供奉
才肯罷休

窗外是雨後朦朧的天空
我想

二郎神會不會趁着仙氣繚繞
去與齊天大聖鬥法？

太陽出來了
那似輕紗的霧
那承載着幻想的夢境
像一觸即破的泡沫
消失不見了

仙人球

范雅茵 中三

當雨水淅淅瀝瀝

熱情蛻變成冷漠

你還是憧憬着陽光

下雨的世界有傘

你的內心卻充滿着驕陽的溫暖

歷盡滄桑，重整旗鼓

陽光重新灑落

或又綻放出淡雅之花

當雪花紛紛揚揚

寒冷冰封了熱情

你還有自己的保護傘

你仍堅守着內心的善良

當春天降臨

萬象更新，變幻莫測

唯有初心依舊不變



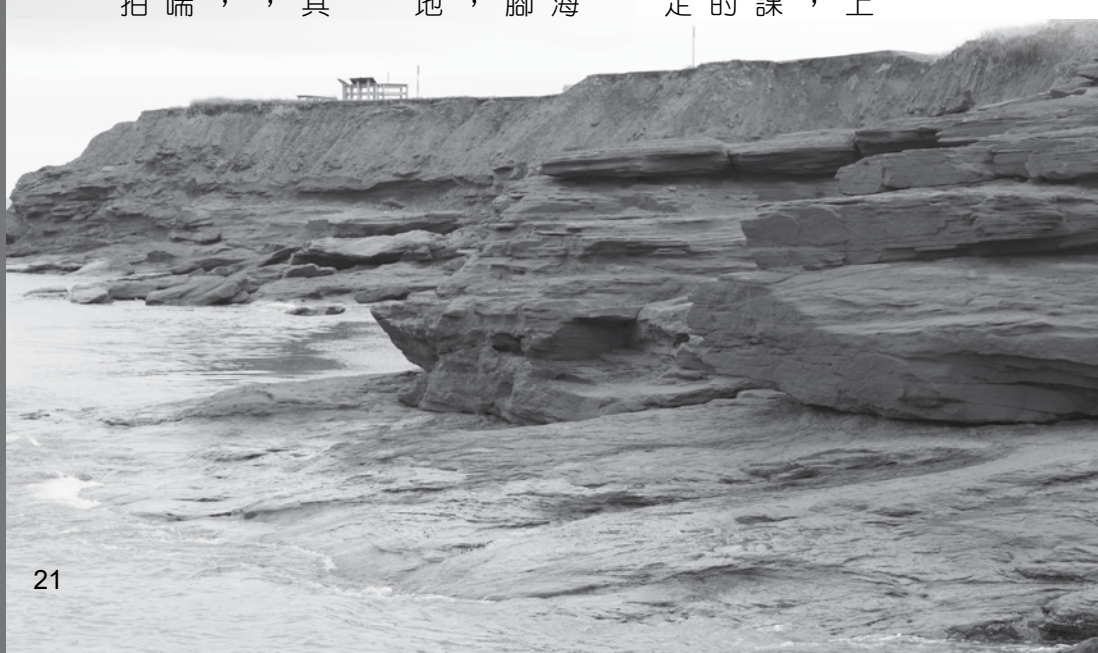
隨遇而安

廖家彥 中五

聽到老師呼喚我的名字，便上前接過成績表。看到成績表上的分數，我不禁輕嘆一聲。為了這次考試，我預備了很長時間，考試前一晚更「開夜車」溫習，結果成績卻如此不堪入目。下課的鐘聲響起了，我二話不說地衝出課室，希望同學不要追問我的成績。站在校門前，我猶豫了半刻，想到拿着這份成績表，一定會被父母責罵，我便放棄了回家的念頭。

我向着返家的相反方向走。走着，走着，便來到烏溪沙海灘。我希望迎着海風，把內心的苦惱吹走。我心煩意亂地猛踢腳邊的石子，滿腦子都是那揪心的分數。從接過成績表那刻開始，我的心就被分數勒得滿處傷痕。我不能隨遇而安，更情不自禁地向着海邊大叫：「煩！煩！煩！煩死了！」

我坐在海邊，時間過得特別快，夕陽慢慢地接近海平線。其實我心裏明白，一直在這裏待下去，也不是辦法。夕陽的餘暉，把我的影子拉得很長很長，我挪着腳步向前走……沿着這條路，我走了很久，雙腿開始發麻，實在走不下去。我呼哧呼哧地喘氣，盤算着該不該回家。而不遠處，卻傳來一陣樂曲聲，我便拍一拍酸疼的兩腿，向樂曲傳來的方向走。



走到了商場裡的旋轉木馬附近，我看到如此親切的木馬，不知不覺地翹起了嘴角，慢慢地放鬆心情，深呼吸，清涼的空氣中有青草花香。

眼前旋轉的燈光如同一顆顆閃閃發亮的寶石，坐在木馬上的孩子臉上掛着天真無邪的笑容，這是我見過最動人的笑容。它沒有美人的傾城，也沒有男子漢的豪邁，只是孩子最純真的一面。看着燈光下的旋轉木馬，愉快的音樂夾雜着孩子的歡笑聲。我不禁跟着這群小天使笑起來，心裏的不快全都拋諸腦後，我感到自己像重生一樣。

我靜靜地深思：人活着，何必不知所以然地苦惱？一切隨遇而安便好。生活中可能有着各種困難，但一帆風順的人生不是最完美的。充滿高低起伏的人生才有意義。我們經常埋怨生活中的困難，其實只是我們把自己困在難題中。何不隨遇而安地生活，試着尋找那份純真的自然？

議論

縱橫



人不可貌相，水不可斗量。意謂不能以貌取人，如同海水不可測量。我認為外表醜陋，不一定是壞人或愚蠢；外表美麗，亦不一定是好人或聰明。所以，我們待人接物不可以只看表面，一定要了解內涵。

子羔，其貌不揚，甚至有經籍說他「狀貌醜惡」，但我卻最欣賞他。為甚麼？事實上，我欣賞他堅毅不屈的精神。子羔因為外貌，處處被人看低，連老師孔子也未有賞識他。可是，他沒有介懷，最後憑着個人的努力，成功出仕。最後，曾經取笑他的人都大吃一驚。可見，只要我們做事努力不放棄，終有成功的一天。而且，只要你獲得成就，別人一定會肯定你的努力，從前嘲笑你的人也會感到慚愧。

現代也不乏例子，例如馬丁路德得金。他是一位黑人，白人一直把黑人視為低等種族，令他們一直受到不公平的對待。身為黑人的馬丁路德金，認為人人平等，不應因膚色而判斷人的貴賤。於是，他決定為所有黑人發聲，追求平等。最後，他以非暴力的方式為黑人爭取民權。雖然最後天意弄人，他遭到刺客射殺，但他的貢獻永遠銘記於人們心中。

再看看霍金，他正是相貌平平、成就斐然的最好代表了。他二十一歲時不幸患上會使肌肉萎縮的盧伽雷氏症，在輪椅上生活接近五十年。每當演講，都要依靠語音合成器。他那頭永遠歪着的形象銘記在我們心中。雖然他外貌平凡，甚至有殘缺，但他卻是當代最重要的物理學家和宇宙學家，被稱為在世的最偉大的科學家，還被譽為「宇宙之王」。可見，一個人的能力絕對不是取決於外貌。

子羔、馬丁路德金和霍金，都是外貌平庸的人，但是他們都有各自的理想，最終取得成功。所以人不可以貌相，我們絕不能憑外貌判斷人的好壞和能力的高低。

功夫下得深，夢想可成真

沈巧婷 中四

古語有云：「不飛則已，一飛沖天；不鳴則已，一鳴驚人。」這句話的意思是平時默默無聞又有才華的人，一旦施展潛能，就能做出驚人的成績。

許多時候，我們所看見的一飛沖天，背後都隱藏了許多積存的力量。正所謂：「台上一分鐘，台下十年功。」成功，亦是如此。每個人，都必須努力去追尋心中的那個自己，方能有機會達到目標，實踐理想。所謂低谷，亦不過是蘊藏力量的最佳寶地。

記得早前看過一個電視節目，訪問一位先天患有眼癌女孩——蕭凱恩。她克服自身障礙，成功踏上音樂之路，並獲得不少殊榮。其背後，付出了許多常人無法想像的心血，最終取得斐然的成就。

「上天關上了一道門，必然會開啟一扇窗。」雖然她的身體有不足，但是從她身上所散發的自信光芒，卻深深地蓋過原有的缺陷。她永不放棄、堅持不懈的毅力，實在是難能可貴。另外，她在學習鋼琴的過程中，雖遭受老師的欺負，但她不但沒有意志消沉，反而更刻苦努力，這一點，真是非常值得讚賞！

有人說：「看不見的世界更美。」，她的心靈世界中亦確實如此。小小年紀的她，熱愛公益，經常參與義工服務，並且擁有一顆感恩的心，樂於為他人付出。難怪她會成為香港傑出青年及義工，更榮獲「再生會十大再生勇士」。

除了音樂和社會公益外，凱恩亦在中、英、普多項朗誦比賽中屢獲獎項。從此，她不再害怕面對人群，並且走向更大的舞台閃閃發亮。她更突破自己，進入主流學校就讀，改變了自身固有的舒適圈。面對陌生的環境，仍能努力克服困難。這一切，真令人鼓舞又感動。

看！她從前是一個平庸的小女孩，搖身一變，成為舞台閃耀的主角。這都是源於她從不向現實低頭，以及在父母無私的照料下，方能一飛沖天。她用自身的例子，教曉了我們任何時刻都不能輕言放棄。她，尚且如此，此刻在為夢想而奮鬥的我們就更沒有資格放棄！

我深信，功夫下得深，夢想可成真。

水，無色無味，雖然隨處可見，卻是生命泉源。

人生如水，一出生為無雜質，純透明的水。隨着成長，遇到不同的經歷，就會添加不同味道。你或會嚐到完成夢想後的甘甜快樂、未能與家人團聚的酸澀苦悶、或是獲得財富、成功的香辣刺激……直至走到人生的終點，屬於自己那杯水的味道，除了「自己」，可能就無人得知了。

同樣，水既是柔和溫潤，亦是其勢洶洶。這就像人擁有不同的個性：文靜、暴躁、活潑……每個人都是一個個體，但只要聚集起來，也是勢不可擋的。正如水也可以是一杯、一瓶，聚起來亦能如同洪水，力量難以估計。

即使是無味無色的水，只要加入不同的味道，就會變得獨一無二。你的人生，是沖泡而成的茶，加入檸檬的檸檬茶，還是加入牛奶的奶茶？

論派利是

譚淇威 中五

一元復始，萬象更新。喜氣洋洋的農曆新年經歷嚴冬後悄然而至，別有意義的「派利是」習俗也如火如荼地開展起來。

自古以來，派利是象徵大吉大利，好運連連的祝福。但近年，「利是醜聞」層出不窮，「派利是」這項別具特色的文化似乎也開始變質。

首先，現代人過新年，只為了利是封裏的「金錢」而四處奔走的大有人在。他們往往忽略了利是的真正意義——向別人傳遞祝福。

每到新年，不少人只着重利是裏的金額。「青蟹」？當然失望。「紅杉魚」？稍稍滿足了。「金牛」？喜出望外了。或許，有人亦會想：「究竟要封多少利是才能夠保障自己的利益？」更有人會因為收到大量利是，而在網絡上耀武揚威一番。亦有人為了獲得大量利是而一改過往態度，變得阿諛奉承；又或是為了利是而不擇手段。是亦不可以已乎？



以往懶懶散散坐在門亭優哉悠哉的門衛，一到新年，便精神煥發，熱情洋溢，用盡平生所學的花言巧語給你親切的問候，而雙手則毫不停歇的將源源不絕的「利是」收得好好的。可是，新年一過，真面目立刻又再呈現。不僅如此，到了新年，門衛的數目甚至有時由兩個變為四個，又或者是一早上一個門衛，下午又是另一個門衛。難道一封「利是」便是你們熱情工作的動力泉源？是你們新年不回家與家人團聚的理由？

不僅如此，「利是」或許又變成商業用途。曾經聽聞過，仁心仁術、輿死扶傷的醫生因為沒有收到「利是」，而不顧病人安危，態度得過且過；官員為了「利是」而為他人親力親為地「工作」。什麼時候那封代表着「美好祝福」的利是，變成了我們勤奮工作的動力？變成了獲取利益的途徑？變成了獲得幫助的一個手段？

元代《俗諺考》所提及「為了吉兆，而向主家討個利是」的說法，是否已經因為現代人利慾薰心而變了質？我們能否別將派利是這個傳遞祝福的傳統，變為充滿機心的手段？

「忍」還是不「忍」？

盧志遠 中五

「忍」還是不「忍」？這問題對我而言是相對的。我認為「小則忍，大則勿忍」。古語有云：「小不忍則亂大謀」。但在別人踏過你的底線或讓你處於困境時，忍，則是苟且偷生罷了。

小忍，是一些無傷大雅的事情。例如和朋友、家人之間爭執，贏了對雙方也沒好處。那麼，不如忍着心頭怒火，平靜下來尋求方法。像是前陣子正準備特首選舉的曾俊華先生，他面對現任特首推責，也忍下來，否則是一「小不忍則亂他競選特首成功之謀」。這實在是非能者難以忍之。

反之，大則別忍。當別人踐踏、越過你的底線時，就真的不可忍。孟子曰：「一簞食，一豆羹，得之則生，弗得則死。爾而與之，行道之人弗受；蹴爾而與之，乞人不屑也。」一碗飯，一碗湯，得到它便可以活下去，失去它就要死亡。然而，如果你呼喝着給他吃，過路的饑餓的人也不會接受；如果你用腳踢著給別人吃，乞丐也不願意接受。有人寧可捨棄生命維護道義，他們在自己的尊嚴受踐踏時，寧死不屈，這種精神實在令人佩服。

該忍時忍，不該忍時就不該忍，不該忍時忍了反而是別人眼中的懦夫。因此，「忍」與「不忍」，也是一門藝術。

我們身邊或許有不少聲音，不論是家人間的爭吵、朋友間的意見不合，或是政治上的糾紛。但是，你會否尋找種種糾紛的導火線呢？又何曾嘗試撲滅那爭吵的來源？然而，引發不同的社會撕裂、破壞和諧生活的則是偏見。

首先，若想消除偏見，必須釐清事實的全部，經過分析才下定論。很多時候，我們了解一件事，只聽別人的一面之詞，片面地認識事情，對其一知半解，就先為事情下定論。因此，這不但令持有相反意見的人不公平，更會令雙方意見不合，彼此產生更多偏見。

因此，我們做事不能操之過急。正如被世人稱為英雄的英國奧運選手李愛銳，他對自己的信仰極為重視。然而，他為了在星期天回教會崇拜，而放棄了當天二百米短跑賽事。當時，很多英國人視他為敵，認為他不願為英國奪獎而缺席比賽，是懦夫作為。一般人看一件事，只看片面，而未有了解事實的全部，從而對李愛銳產生偏見。可是，在我們對別人或事情作出批評或決定時，必須完全看清事情的來龍去脈，才作出評論。

其次，許多偏見的產生都源於不理解對方，本身對其議題存有偏見。一提起「內地人」一詞，你第一時間想起甚麼？是水貨客？不文明行為？還是貪污風氣呢？事實上現時社會存在很多對內地人的偏見，然而他們所產生的偏見，很多時候都是因為他們的行為習慣而生，又或者人云亦云、知其言而不知其所以言。可見，這些人大部分可能都是在羊群效應的影響下產生偏見。

例如美國總統候選人特朗普，他指從墨西哥跑進美國的人不會是頂尖人才，而是充滿問題的人。可見他只從墨西哥小部分人的行為而標籤大部分墨西哥人都是有問題的。因此，我們其實可多接納不同聲音的人士，嘗試了解他們言行舉止的背後原因，從而消除各方的偏見。

再者，「自我中心」都是產生偏見的源頭。很多時候，我們在怪責別人的同時，常會忽略自己的過錯，而這樣的心態則說明你認為自己是對的，而對別人產生偏見。因此，我認為每個人怪責別人前，除了了解事件緣由，更要回想自己是否也曾犯過同樣的錯誤，嘗試放下成見，以大局為主，解決衝突。

現今社會，資訊科技日益發達，我們所得知的資訊也愈來愈多。然而，我們應當多角度分析事件。當社會出現種種衝突、糾紛和偏見時，也應該為社會和諧出一分力，了解事件背後的原因，平衡各持分者的意見，中和各人的偏見。

敘事

寫人



記一次令人難忘的學校旅行

薛景鍇 中一

隨着陣陣秋風，樹上有些泛黃的樹葉翩翩落下，不禁讓人感到悲涼，但卻絲毫不影響我們去旅行的心情。這次學校旅行是去一個新地方——愛琴灣。

我們在五彩斑斕的花田裏遊玩，參觀洋氣的建築，還在草地上放風箏。玩了一個上午，肚子都「咕咕」地叫着，喊我們吃飯，我們不得不開始準備午餐。經過一番努力，我們終於可以開動了！同學互相分享自己親手做的食物，有時稱讚對方，有時取笑大家，唯獨有一組同學垂頭喪氣的呆坐着。

原來他們將小組的食物放在同一個書包裏，但卻不見了那書包的踪影。大家都知道他們為了今天的野餐，早幾天已開始準備，沙拉、雞翼、布丁……大家都滿心期待，但現在沒得吃，真替他們失望。我們議論紛紛，突然想到一個好主意：他們兩人加入我組，成為我們的組員。我們一起分享食物，不分彼此，最後由他們來收拾地方，出一點力。大家都有說有笑，盡情享受野餐的樂趣。

長大後，每當我回憶這件事，我都會情不自禁地大笑起來，因為那組同學不見了的書包原來就在草地的最遠處。現在的我是多麼懷念與小學同學一起的時光啊！

提到自己心目中的超人，相信很多人都約而同地想到一個人物，沒錯，她就是媽媽了！雖然她只是個平凡人，但在我們的生活中絕對不可以沒有她！

曾經看過網上的一篇文章說，「現今男性的擇偶對象既要漂亮又要溫柔，還一定要賢慧，最好會帶小孩子，更要對自己有信心。其實這號人物一直就已經出現在你的身邊，就是你媽媽！」我看完，會心微笑，內心再認同不過。確實，這樣神一般的要求，除了偉大的媽媽能做到之外，還有誰能？賢慧和會帶孩子當然做到，不然那麼胖胖白白的你從哪裏蹦來？溫柔又有耐心？當然有，不然哪會在你一二次的嫌棄下，還苦口婆心地提醒你最近天氣變冷多穿衣服？至於漂亮……這見仁見智吧！不過我認為媽媽是非常美麗的，不然我怎能成功遺傳到她的漂亮？

雖然，媽媽只是個平凡人，但她在不知不覺間成了我們生活的一部份。如果有天你的母親大人出外旅遊，我敢斷定，當她回家開門的一瞬間，她強悍又溫柔的樣子，必定讓你相信她就是超人。生活沒有了她，不知為何自己好像會變成一堆垃圾，家中成了廢墟，你在絕望中渴望得到媽媽的拯救！

一件令我進退兩難事

陳舒琪 中三

新開張的書店裏，坐滿了人，擺滿了書。走進去逛了一會，我發現那一本封面似曾相識的厚書，不禁令我回憶起一件往事與一位早已消失的朋友。

還是中一之時，我就很喜歡與我同行的朋友到處走，她是相識多年的知己婷婷。

那一天烏雲密布，像是為接下來上演的情節作佈景。婷婷與我一起在老舊的書店裏進行探險。店員沉迷在手機上，婷婷便趁機拿起一本很厚的書，放進書包內，然後拉着我急速離開。我向她查問，得知真相後有點憤怒。她居然偷書！

回想她的小學生涯，是一個乖巧的好學生，即使家中窮困不堪，亦從不做出偷竊的事。

看到我吃驚的樣子，她還告訴我，假如我說真相我們便絕交。對於她的警告，我心中除了失望還是失望。

她曾說過會努力向上，用自己的努力去換取應得的報酬。可是她食言了，還用了這行動告訴我！她曾以無數個晚上和周末換得幾張獎狀；她曾



忍受過別人嫌她窮的眼光，免去了父母對她的擔心。她用了自己童年應享受父母寵愛的時間去學習成熟。畢業典禮那天，她露出了真摯的笑容，那是我見過最美麗、最純真的笑容。

書店外傾盆大雨，她匆匆離開。她大概認為我不會替她隱瞞，所以逃離了。我不知該如何是好，是進還是退？我害怕失去一個知己，可是……

她狼狽的背影在雨中漸漸消失，雨愈下愈大，沒有打雷，似乎上天也只是為她感到無盡的失望和心疼。她每一步都走得不容易。既然如此，我更不忍心讓她的笑容沉淪在偷竊的罪行裏，卻視而不見！

我把她的情況告訴了她的父母，才得知她在經歷小學生生涯後，身心已疲憊不堪。後來又因父親失業，在繁重的生活擔子下迷失了自己。

後來，她就在我生活中消失，無緣無故的消失了。我有點痛惜她那麼一個好朋友、好學生。

那本書還在，只是人已經不見了。

一條熟悉的道路

程嶠樺 中四

平日，放學後的我都會匆匆回家。唯獨最近，我這個傷殘人士只可以蠕動前進，「慢」步回家。

一拐一拐的步伐，使我顯得異常笨拙。環顧四周，路人都各自沉醉在自己的世界。有的人在網絡世界遊走；有的愛侶在愛河裏不能自拔；地盤工人在吸煙，顯得莫名的滄桑。蟑螂也在沙塵滾滾的路邊穿插。

陣陣清風吹過，帶來陣陣涼意，也把褐黃色的樹葉帶到我的腳邊。向下望，發現鞋帶鬆開了，我坐在公園的木椅上繫好鞋帶。雀鳥的吱吱聲在我耳朵迴響，為我演奏一曲大自然的樂章。細心傾聽，還夾雜蟬的最後悲鳴。

繼續向前走，炒栗子的香味迎面撲上。前方的小攤檔販叫嚷着，向附近的路人招手。師傅爐火純青的兜炒功架，吸引不少人光顧。我也成了他的俘虜，拜倒在他的武功下。香甜可口的味道觸動味蕾，讓人齒頰留香，但這熟透的味道逐漸在城市中消隱。

天色昏暗起來，一盞又一盞的路燈像菊花綻放，與枯萎凋零的植物壁壘分明。紫霞的天空在棉花糖襯托下顯得格外美麗，令人感嘆「夕陽無限好」。

步入隧道，又是另一個世界。隧道裏的表演者一展歌喉，等候着伯樂的「賞識」。在悅耳的音樂下，我很快就離開了，因為我害怕繞樑三日的歌聲會令我樂而忘返。

艱辛的路程現在才開始，陡峭的天梯彷彿沒有盡頭。健壯的青年都步履輕盈，我和一群主婦卻舉步維艱。腳下偶見蝴蝶的屍骸，而眼前則是無情的踐踏，乾脆的枯葉也粉碎得不堪入目。

回到家中，我終於如釋重負。回憶起剛才的沿途風景、人和事，我發現最熟悉的歸家路突然變得十分陌生。除了我，身邊的人都好像活在自己的世界。一些傳統工藝漸漸失去立足的位置，一些值得欣賞的藝術也無人問津。究竟是甚麼原因使我們對身邊的所有事物失去感覺？對往日的片段失去回憶？明明一直在身邊遊走，一直都是自己最熟悉的，為何會變得這麼陌生？明明與家人天天見面，卻不曾聽到對方的聲音？我們明明就看到、聽到、嗅到、觸到，但卻仍然得不到萬物的靈魂。既是熟悉，又是陌生，這是一個怎樣的世界？

有志者，事竟成

張熙 中四

每一個人都有自己的興趣，可能年幼時的興趣和現在的興趣會有所不同，但我可以肯定的告訴你，我現在最熱愛的運動就是賽艇！而賽艇也是唯一啟發我、令我醒覺的運動。

中三那年，老師推薦我參加學界室內划艇比賽，那一次正式開始了我的「賽艇生涯」。起初我參加賽艇只是因為想嘗試接觸不同的活動，也藉着這個機會鍛鍊自己的身體。到了暑假，開始了真正的訓練，我才發現賽艇真的很有趣。那時我便為自己訂下了一個目標，我要拿到學界室內划艇比賽的獎牌。但是成功的路上總是有些崎嶇。由於我暑假時有很多活動，我參加了兩個交流團，還有多次紅十字會的活動，所以常常缺席划艇訓練。到了暑假最後幾天，賽艇隊也要篩選隊員，大家也向香港青年代表隊的夢想進發！

那次的篩選，我雖然沒有達到教練的要求，可她還是讓我留下來。不知什麼原因，我開始更努力地練習。但剛開始時，我對這種高強度的訓練，有些支持不住。終於有一天，我沒有達到教練的要求，她在全隊人面前大聲地呵斥我、痛罵我。此刻我恨不得找個地洞鑽進去。但當我想起最初為自己定下的目標時，內心又堅強了一點。可教練罵我的聲音還是在我耳邊徘徊，洗艇的人停了下來，其他隊伍的教練也停下指揮，全部人都看着我。最後教練說了一句：「如果以後你再用這樣的狀態去訓練，那就不用再回來了。」聽到這句話，我的心好像被針刺一般。那次，我徹底醒覺了！

自此，每次訓練我都按時回到體院，每次訓練都用盡全力，突破自己。後來，在一次日本訓練營的選拔當中，我成功地提升了兩千米拉機測試的速度和時間。這個成績，足以在沙西區學界比賽中奪得獎牌。教練也誇獎我，這是我成功的第一步！

「有志者，事竟成」這句話真的可以描繪我這段訓練日子的經歷。只要努力、堅持，總可以達到目標，實現夢想。也是因為教練嚴斥的話，才令我深刻體會「有志者，事竟成」的涵意。憑着這信念，也許能讓我在賽艇活動更上一層樓，得到更多的成就。

終於又完成了一整天艱辛的任務，我背着書包，懷着興奮的心情，與我班上的「戰友」進行一場在虛擬世界的射擊任務。我戴上耳機，以悅耳動聽的旋律去掩蓋人們吵雜的交談聲。一步上月台，驚現排山倒海的人群在等候列車的來臨。我放下耳機，以更具體的感官去感受這個震撼的情景。

我在人群之中成了微小的沙塵。在月台上等候列車的人群，仿如一群熱鍋上的螞蟻，焦急不安，眼神中顯露出眾人有著同一目標——向前進發。我也加入他們，成為一群整裝待發的士兵。不一會，我最期待的畫面出現在眼前了。當地鐵的廣播說：「請小心空隙。」各位士兵紮穩馬步，以穩如泰山的身軀，防止車廂內的士兵以強勁的衝力擊破防線。當車門傳出兩聲「嘟嘟」，我知道這場戰爭馬上開始了。

當分隔着兩群水火不容士兵的閘門開啟後，他們的眼眉皺起，眼中一團熊熊火焰正在燃燒。他們由士兵變成了虎背熊腰的攬球員，車內和車外的運動員互相衝撞，肌肉突然收縮，血管內的血液供不應求，臉泛紅光，最後雙方的球員也成功達陣。有些人面不改容，有些人汗流浹背，有些人則春風滿面，一副得意洋洋的樣子，只因他們能登上車廂的寶座。而淪為戰敗者的乘客只能以不屑的眼神瞪着他們，有些人更視如寇仇，最可惜的是他們並沒有免死金牌。

真正擁有免死金牌的王者——老人家，一位瘦弱憔悴的老婆婆彎着差不多成直角的腰，以纖瘦的手臂緊緊握着扶手杆，坐在老婆婆面前的青年本來精神抖擻，但當他發現老婆婆衣衫襤褸，以哀求的眼神希望他能讓出座位時，他立即垂下眼皮，假裝「釣魚」般昏昏欲睡，老婆婆那失望與落泊的眼神是多麼的淒慘。

當那青年看到各乘客欲拿手機拍下這個冷漠的畫面，以及眾人怒目而視時，他只能扭扭捏捏地離開那個親如家般的座位，依依不捨地離開了。老婆婆臺上眉梢的樣子看着間接幫助她的乘客，就像以表情說出感謝。

雖然車上的乘客仍似冷漠無情，自私自利，但當看到不公義或不公平的事情發生，依然會出一分力，默默地付出。可見，社會上仍有愛，人間是有愛的。看到這個場景，我的心頭也為之一暖。

放下的收穫

高俊華 中六

「教練！教練！我一定要勝出這次比賽。」看着這些小孩，不怕酷熱的陽光而付出汗水和體力，為了勝出比賽不怕付上一切代價。回想，這也是曾經的自己。

以前，我也如今天的小孩，為了比賽不怕付出時間、體力，只對冠軍的寶座有所欲求。所以，我不會放棄任何獲勝的機會。不論跑步、跳遠，甚至馬拉松，我都能憑着自己的能力而勝出。但那次的我卻因為自己而落敗。

我曾參加一個領袖訓練營，在營中我一直都能越過挑戰，不論是體力、智力的比賽都能輕易勝出，我因此變得驕傲，嘲諷其他人的弱點；我亦因此被人討厭、不受歡迎。但我沒有理會他們，因為我根本就能靠自己，不需要別人的幫助也能夠勝出。「對！何必要理會那些比我更差勁的人？」我心想。

「接下來，將會是最後一個挑戰。」教練道。起初，我對這個挑戰的勝算十拿九穩，但沒想到這個挑戰需要和別人組成一隊。我根本就不需要隊友，更何況我從沒有試過和別人組成一隊。看着教練分配下來的隊友，樣貌平凡，戴着一副方框眼鏡，像是一個電腦達人。我不屑地看着他，心裏埋怨着上天。最後的一項挑戰竟然是雙人划艇，本來我對划艇已經沒有太多認識，還要有一個這麼幫倒忙的隊友，恐怕會影響勝局，不過我不會向命運低頭，我會加緊練習，力爭勝利。

比賽鳴聲一響，我奮力向前划，藉此拉開與對手的距離。隊友不知是不是被我的鬥心影響，開始配合我的節奏，使我們遙遙領先。但是，沒想到在距離終點差不遠時，隊友卻停下雙手，喘着氣，呆呆地看着我。我沒多想，只繼續用盡力划，卻比想像中困難。正當我出盡力划的時候，船已被我划得左搖右擺。

突然海上有急浪，一下一下地打在我們的船身，令船傾側，一下子我們都掉進水裏。這刻的我被突如其來的意外嚇呆，打亂了一切計劃。不過，我才不會輕易被打敗，我將船翻過來後，迅速爬上船，拿起船槳，準備開始划，誓要急起直追。我的隊友呢？不見了他。他是不是遇溺了？要找他嗎？但如果去找他，就會被其他人超越，我不可以輸的！正當我猶豫不決，隊友的求救聲在我耳邊響起。

我從沒有輸過任何比賽，只因我對冠軍的追求，站在頒獎台上接過獎牌，彷彿站在世界的頂峰，俯視一切，證明了我是強者。但我除了獎項，還得到什麼？沒有，朋友因我的驕傲離我而去，其他人亦討厭我。細想之下，原來我才是一個無用的人，只懂得追求成績，將榮耀放在首位，但一個朋友也沒有。

最終，我躍進水中，捉緊了他的手。海水是冷的，我的心卻炙熱。我主動將比賽的金牌掉進海裏，上天卻把一塊友誼的金牌掛在我脖子上。我雖然得不到榮耀，但得到比榮耀更珍貴的尊重和友情。

「小朋友！我想你們不會犯下我這個錯誤吧！」

不一樣的經歷

黃明意 中六

天空中碩大無比的太陽照耀在地上，萬物如同復甦般從地底深處探出個頭來，開始了新一天。看着懸掛在牆上的那時鐘，八時三十二分零六秒，我頓然回過頭來，想起了一件重要的事。今天是一年一度的校際單車比賽，而這將是我加入學校單車隊後參加的第三次聯校比賽。但對我而言，我彷彿只是一個替代品，一個永遠沒有機會亮相的替代品，一個只被人埋藏在黑暗角落的替代品。但我仍加快腳步，拿起自己的「小老婆」，趕快騎到比賽場地與隊友集合。

九時十二分零五秒，我到達了比賽的場地。那裏盡是黑壓壓的人頭，但也仍能依稀看見每輛單車被太陽光反射出的光芒，照射着我的雙眸，同時也照射着我內心那顆懦弱的心。這次比賽共有三十多間學校參加，每個人看似都是大內高手，骨子裏好像會在某一特定時候爆發出衝勁。我只不過是單車隊中的一名後備隊員，從來沒有替學校正式出賽，前兩次也只是當一名旁觀者，寂寂無名。即使有機會，我卻連出賽的勇氣也沒有。

「大家聽着！今天很不幸，我們的隊長因病而不能夠參加比賽，有誰能夠替他出賽？實在是沒有其他辦法了！」單車隊教練破了喉嚨似的在喊叫。霎時間，我內心出現了一把聲音在說道：「不行！你這個懦夫，之前連出賽的勇氣也沒有。你甘心當一個永遠沒有機會亮相的替代品嗎？你甘心當一個只能被人埋藏在黑暗角落的替代品嗎？現在機不可失，你仍然有拒絕的理由嗎？」本來正在躊躇着的我如同被人點亮的燈籠般，那惟有孤注一擲吧！對的！誰若是有一那的膽怯，也許就放走了幸運在這一那間對他伸放出的香餌。我連一那的猶豫也沒有，向着藍天伸出了手。

我連同其他四名隊員，坐着各自的「寶馬」，在起點線前等待着「開始！」的那一聲。「開始！」一聲的發落帶出了擲地有聲的比賽前奏，接着各人踏着車輪向前全速前進。剛開始的時候，我的速度稍稍跟不上

大隊的進度。我更曾經有一刻念頭想放棄，但看着隊友那無聲無色地在努力的背影，加上內心那曾提醒過自己的聲音，最終我打消了這個念頭。

到了五公里的比賽中段，我們其中一名隊友修端的單車不小心被石頭絆倒，使他膝下位置破了皮，看得見那血紅的顏色。或許因為這段小插曲，大家都萎靡不振似的，提不起勁來。而我們的排名大約由頭七位跌至第十五左右。看見這情況，我鼓勵四名隊員說：「你們在幹什麼？這個樣子不像你們呀！平日的你們走到哪兒去？或許我們現在的排名較後，但也不代表你們就會落敗。」一往向前，愈挫愈奮，再接再厲！」這一瞬間，大家彷彿被我再次點燃心中那團熊熊烈火，重拾那原有的鬥心。看見這樣，我更沒有後悔這一次舉手的抉擇。

到了比賽的後段，我和隊友發出如子彈般的速度全力向前進。我聽到的不只是車輪與車鏈的聲音，更聽到到內心的一句話——「相信自己，鼓起勇氣，定必使你成長。」最後，我們一隊五人衝過了終點線。我嗅到的不只是那辛勤付出過後的汗水，更有勇者的氣息。儘管我們最後只能獲得第四名，但這足以令我有不一樣的經歷和體會。教練向我說道：「相信自己的能力，不再當懦夫。看！你現在不是做到了嗎？」

的確，從前的我只不過是一個昏庸無能的人，永遠害怕這樣，害怕那樣，但如今我漸漸明白勇敢和勇氣能使人進步，經歷過後亦能獲得難能可貴的機會和意想不到的收穫。

那個當初的替代品，那個永遠沒有機會亮相的替代品，那個只能被人埋藏在黑暗角落的替代品，彷彿脫去了「替代品」的外殼，漸漸萌生了能栽種出勇氣的種子。

懦夫，你還在不在？

From The School Supervisor

Take A Walk On The Wild Side!

This year's edition of Voice of Erudition encapsulates all the hours of study and practice you have undertaken during your education. The English classroom prepares you for the academic world of English. It is the perfect environment for the memorization of new words and rules and for their conscious recall during classroom activities, quizzes, and tests. At school, you also benefit from our devoted teachers who cater for learner diversity.

However, in the real world, or out in the "wild", we need to have automatic responses to many situations. We need to build confidence and be brave to talk with maybe strangers. They may correct our pronunciation bluntly, or seem confused. When we can get our meaning across, we can enjoy a feeling of achievement. These authentic interactions are exciting, meaningful and relevant for us.

If you want to make progress with your English ability, you must embrace learning in the classroom and in the "wild". What do I mean by "wild"? Well, try to use English outside the classroom as much as possible. Chat with the native English teacher at school. Tell a joke or a story in English and enjoy a conversation! Try to experience a natural conversation. You can also chat with tourists or expats in Hong Kong. Most people are happy to chat when waiting for a bus or sitting on the MTR. With each interaction, your confidence will increase.

Other "wild" interactions include books, social media and especially movies and soap operas that provide plenty of opportunities for English language learning.

When you are older, no doubt you will have plenty of opportunities to practise English in the wild, at work, on holidays overseas and socially with English speakers. Embrace these experiences and be confident that your classroom knowledge will give you the foundation and continue to nurture your abilities in English. You only have one life! Enjoy the wild ride!

Ms. Barbara Chan Wei Ting

School Supervisor

From The Principal

What Is Education?

I am proud to introduce our latest edition of Voice of Erudition to showcase our budding writers' talents. This collection of writing embodies all that we as educators try to foster in our students. What is the purpose of education? This quote reflects our educational aspirations: Education's purpose is to replace an empty mind with an open one – Malcolm Forbes, 1919-1990, publisher, politician.

Within these pages of our Voice of Erudition, you will observe young minds opening and blossoming to create writings on a range of meaningful topics. How do we enable students to foster an open mind? The very act of engaging and reflecting on the world and their place within it encourages this transformation.

For the junior forms, their writing reflects an emphasis on recalling an experience or retelling a story. They are mastering the features of the English language and developing their ability to recall events in their everyday lives. They are like a seed, beginning to sprout, to absorb all the necessary grammatical and stylistic information to express themselves in English.

Next, the middle years, by F.3 our students are not only recalling information from a text but responding to it in sophisticated ways. Here, they learn to engage both the left and right sides of their brain. They express feelings, opinions and critiques on movies that reflect their interests. F.4 students begin to extend their writing skills even further by exploring the techniques of creative writing and essay writing. These writings reflect their growing confidence.

Each stage of development is to be applauded. By F.5 and F.6, the culmination of years of study in English can be seen in more sophisticated writing. Students engage with society, giving their opinion on topics such as housing estates, exams and psychological issues including depression.

Further, they have the confidence to participate in competitions such as the essay writing competition on man's race against machine and its impacts on our relationship with the Earth. Our students see problems as opportunities to make positive change. They are respectful of different points of view. They show their curiosity about the world around them. These are the traits of an open mind.

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

This new edition of the Voice of Erudition features not only essays in all genres but also more writing competition entries both within and outside school. It is encouraging to see so many students who are willing to challenge themselves. Writing is no longer a devil for our youngsters. Eventually, they have overcome their fear of writing in English. Thanks to the students who openly shared their writing.

I would like to express my appreciation to our English Department for their continuous support towards the publication of this book. Without their contribution, it would have been a difficult process. I would also like to extend my sincere thanks to Cheng Hoi Lam (F.6A) for the cover design of this book of which the theme is "Children's Vision of the Outside World". Its bright and colourful image implies that children are pure and they are all dreaming of a prosperous future as life will be full of opportunities. The appealing layout is eye-catching and meaningful.

Finally, I am grateful to all who have helped to make the publication of this book a "mission possible". Let's experience a personal connection with the inner world of our student writers. Read their minds!

Ms. Lam Lai Kuen

Editor

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Acknowledgements to all English teachers

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Foreword

Much like a gardener selecting the most beautiful and fragrant flowers to assemble and admire in a vase, we have compiled this collection of student writing for you, our dear readers, to enjoy. Unlike the transient beauty of flowers, these writings capture ideas, stories and cherished moments to be eternally preserved within the pages of this year's Voice of Erudition.

The theme of our annual Languages Week was the "Language of Flowers." Despite our society's growing love affair with technology, we are innately connected to nature; we are drawn to the natural world as is evident in our collective appreciation for flowers.

Flowers play a pivotal role in traditions across all cultures; from weddings to seasonal celebrations. What would New Year's celebrations be without peach blossom to symbolise our hopes for growth, prosperity, long life or romance for the year to come? In an ever changing world, flowers are a constant, beautiful reminder of not only our traditions but also our desire to communicate. Likewise, language empowers us to communicate our mind with accuracy. Our words convey and enliven our thoughts. When the occasion seems too momentous for spoken words, writing can bridge that gap. We can write in times of celebration, appreciation, sadness and awe to clarify our thoughts and document our experiences.

With the current trend on developing a more sustainable lifestyle, flowers have taken on an even more practical role. We wonder at the cycle of life: from seed to sapling, bud to blossom and back to seed. We hope the writings in "Voice of Erudition" may evoke the same reactions as the fragrance of a beautiful posy of flowers. Our students have tried to capture and express something they feel passionate about whether it is a personal opinion or a creative story. They endeavour to excite your senses through imagery or pique your interest through sharing their unique perspective.

We hope you enjoy our literary bouquet!

Ms. Ronna Pun Lai Hung
Vice Principal & English Panel Head

Contents

Pages

- 1 From The School Supervisor
- 2 From The Principal
- 3 From The Editor
- 4 Foreword

Junior Forms

Articles

- | | | | |
|---|----------------------------------------|---------------|-----|
| 7 | Fitness Day | Wong Hing Ho | F.1 |
| | My Life At Secondary School | Au Ching Tung | F.1 |
| 8 | My Visit To The Hong Kong Space Museum | Ma Chung Yan | F.2 |
| | Fun Ways To Improve English | Lam Nok Hin | F.3 |
| 9 | My Dream Job | Choi Ho Tak | F.3 |
| | My Must-have App | Fung Hok Ming | F.3 |

Diary Entry/Postcard/Email

- | | | | |
|----|----------------|----------------|-----|
| 10 | A Diary Entry | Tang Wei Hei | F.1 |
| | A Postcard | Cheung Wai Hei | F.1 |
| 11 | An Email Reply | Tsui Kin Long | F.2 |

Story Writing

- | | | | |
|----|-----------------------|------------------|-----|
| 12 | Snow White And Jack | Tsang Wai Cheung | F.2 |
| 13 | The Wicked Cinderella | Wu Hoi Yee | F.2 |

F.2 Comic Dialogue Competition

- | | | | |
|----|-------------------|-----------------------------------------|------|
| 14 | A Farewell Gift | Yeung Lok Yin (Champion) | F.2C |
| 15 | Opinion - seeking | Koon Lok (1 st runner-up) | F.2C |
| 16 | A Birthday Gift | Kwok Man Ka (1 st runner-up) | F.2C |

F.3 Book Report Competition

- | | | | |
|----|-------------------|-----------------------------------------|------|
| 17 | Heidi | Fan Ya Yin (Champion) | F.3C |
| 18 | Mr Bean's Holiday | Lam Nok Hin (1 st runner-up) | F.3D |
| 19 | Peter Pan | Lau Yin (2 nd runner-up) | F.3C |

Senior Forms

Articles

- | | | | |
|----|----------------------------------------|---------------|-----|
| 20 | World Cup Final | Li Cheuk Wai | F.4 |
| 21 | Cyber Crime | Lam Tsz Ho | F.5 |
| 23 | Real Life Thriller | Yick Long Hin | F.5 |
| 24 | Dreadful Depression – How To Fight It? | Yip Yun Kiu | F.6 |
| 25 | Youth Wellbeing Should Be A Priority | Wong Ming Yi | F.6 |

Contents

Letter Writing

26	Letter Of Advice	Lo Shuk Heung	F.4
27	Letter Of Complaint To A Hotel	Leung Kam Wing	F.5

Speech

28	A Graduation Speeh	Huang Zijian	F.6
----	--------------------	--------------	-----

Opinions

Hong Kong Bottom Of Happiness Survey

29	Lam Tsz Kit F.4	Lo Yung Ching F.5	Yick Long Hin F.5
----	-----------------	-------------------	-------------------

Should Exams Become History?

30	Ko Hon Hin F.4	Hui Wing Sum F.5	Tung Suet Ying F.5
----	----------------	------------------	--------------------

F.4 Photo Story Writing Competition

31	Climb Your Way Back Up	Chung Kwan Wa (Champion)	F.4A
32	Christmas Gathering	Liu Ka Leong (1 st runner-up)	F.4A
33	Pokemon Go Craze	Li Cheuk Wai (2 nd runner-up)	F.4A

F.5 Facebook Photo Sharing Competition

34	The Nightmarish Year Of 2016	Yick Long Hin (Champion)	F.5A
35	Memorable Concert – Highlight Of The Year	Shek Ching Hung (1 st runner-up)	F.5A
36	Sun Came Out For Family Reunion	Cheung Chun Ming (2 nd runner-up)	F.5B

F.4-5 Lions International Essay Writing Competition

37	The Race Between Man And Machine And Its Impacts On The Relationship Between Man And The Earth	Chung Kwan Wa	F.4A
39	The Race Between Man And Machine And Its Impacts On The Relationship Between Man And The Earth	Lau Yat Hin	F.5B

F.6 Book Reviews

41	Assassin's Creed – Black Flag	Huang ZiJian	F.6A
44	Gang Leader For A Day	Tsui Wai Yin	F.6A

Fitness Day

Wong Hing Ho F.1

Our Fitness Day was held on the 25th of November. On that day, our school organized many activities. I participated in the talk about healthy eating and making healthy snacks. All these activities focused on promoting good health.

First, I went to listen to a talk about healthy eating. Our school invited the most famous nutritionist in the world to give a speech to us. He explained the food pyramid and reminded us not to eat food with high sugar or fat content. We also learnt that junk food such as potato chips, noodles and candies are bad for our health. We should eat more nutritious food including vegetables and grains such as potatoes, tomatoes, apples and rice.

Then I went to make healthy snacks. We made many such as dried mangoes and grapes. Finally, we went to play basketball.

The Fitness Day was a success and I learnt a lot.

Junior Forms

My Life At Secondary School

Au Ching Tung F.1

My name is Stephy Au. I'm twelve years old and I live in Ma On Shan. I am a positive and kind person. My hobbies are listening to music, watching films and going shopping.

My new school is The Hong Kong Chinese Women's Club Fung Yiu King Memorial Secondary School. At recess, I usually chat with my friends in the tuckshop and during lunch time I will go to the library to read the books. I also play badminton with my friends after lunch. I have two new class teachers – they are Miss Lee and Miss Wong. Miss Lee teaches me Geography and Miss Wong teaches me English.

One of my new friends is Daisy Chan. She is an outgoing and independent person. She is tall and she has black hair. Daisy has a lot of hobbies such as swimming and playing chess. Her favourite food is chocolate because it's very yummy. She likes to listen to K-pop too.

I like my secondary school. I hope I can make more friends and will get better results for every subject in my new secondary school life.

Articles

My Visit To The Hong Kong Space Museum

Ma Chung Yan F.2

Today I went to visit the Hong Kong Space Museum with my friends. We went there because we had to finish a group report about space.

We went on a space shuttle which was very funny. Then we watched a show about stars which was so amazing. In the show, we could see many planets and stars, the sun, the moon and the universe. We tried moon walking like the astronauts. It was exciting.

In the Hong Kong Space Museum, we also saw many models of the sun and the planets and an exhibit about space travel. We met an astronaut who talked to us and answered all our queries.

We learnt a lot by visiting the museum. I hope we can go there again in the near future.

Fun Ways To Improve English

Lam Nok Hin F.3

Many students think that English is hard to learn. In fact, there are many fun and easy ways to learn English. In this article, I will tell you how to improve language skills on listening, reading, speaking and writing.

First, to improve listening, you may use your TV or computer at home. You can watch English channels on TV or video clips on YouTube. Don't be afraid to listen to English. You may listen and read the subtitles at the same time to help you understand more.

Second, to improve reading, you may read magazines, story books or even comic books. The topics are not important as long as you keep on reading from time to time. Reading more helps you develop a sense for English grammar structure. Very soon you will find it easier to understand English text.

Third, to improve speaking, you have to speak more English in your daily lives. For example, you may act as a tour guide and introduce places to your friends. Or you may play some drama acts and sing karaoke in English. Don't be afraid to speak.

Lastly, to improve writing, you may choose to write emails or blogs. Online blogs are popular these days. Try to write some of them in English to share your daily lives!

My Dream Job

Choi Ho Tak F.3

My dream job is to be a physicist. A physicist explores the world and studies all things from the smallest particles to the big universe.

I want to be a physicist because I like to study about time, thermal physics and mechanics. I want to know about their principles and how they work. I want to know if I can find some bugs in Einstein's theories. I want to challenge the physics community. Above all, I want to have a job where I can do different things every day and never have to worry about being bored.

To be a physicist, one must be very good at Mathematics, Physics and English. Therefore, I have to work hard towards my goal. I hope I can study Physics at university and realize my dream in the future.

My Must-have App

Fung Hok Ming F.3

Do you have any mobile applications which are very useful? Have you ever heard of Pocket Dictionary, Brain Game, Delicious Dining or Sale Finder? In this review, I will talk about one of my must-have apps.

My must-have app is Delicious Dining. It has thousands of restaurant reviews including those of Hong Kong chefs, international critique and even international chefs. They give restaurant-goers some advice. Some people change their minds after reading the reviews. They are very useful. The app also has full menus of local restaurants. So, you can check which local restaurant serves your favorite delicacies!

The app also has descriptions of daily deals so you can use the deals to save more money. Also, this app has an amazing feature. It is called "SMS reservation tool". You can use it to reserve a seat at any restaurants in Hong Kong via SMS. It is very convenient. It's good for busy Hong Kong people who have no time to call to book a table. To top things off, did I mention this app is free?

In conclusion, Delicious Dining is a must-have app because it has thousands of restaurant reviews, full menus of local restaurants, descriptions of daily deals and an SMS reservation tool. Please get it right now!

A Diary Entry

Tang Wei Hei F.1

Saturday May 17

Today I spent the day with Emily. She came from the UK. She is 14 years old. She's tall and has short wavy hair.

I met Emily at Sai Wan Ho MTR station in the morning and we went to Tai Lam by bus No.14. We hiked in Tai Lam Country Park. Emily and I saw the Tai Lam water dam. We were shocked that it was so strong. On the way, we took many photos of butterflies, birds and huge trees.

We left after three hours as we felt tired. We took the bus to a fast food shop. We had sausages and egg noodles with ham. We finished all the food in ten minutes as we were extremely hungry.

After lunch, we went to Mongkok to buy some comics. Emily bought one comic book for me so I invited her to my house to have dinner, but she refused as she wanted to try some local snacks in Hong Kong.

Today I felt so happy and excited.

A Postcard

Cheung Wai Hei F.1

How are you? I am having a great time in Vietnam. The weather here is beautiful! We are enjoying ourselves under the sun. It is brilliant!

At the moment, I am writing this postcard at the hotel restaurant. I am having breakfast right now. It is very delicious. I have taken many photos because I have visited a lot of places. Yesterday I went to the Notre-Dame Cathedral Basilica of Saigon. I was stunned by its beautiful architecture.

Today, I will go to the Christ the King statue. I have to climb eight hundred and eighty-eight steps to reach it, so I hope I can challenge myself and take some great photos from the top of the mountain.

Anyway, I hope I can have an extraordinary trip. See you soon. I will phone you when I get back to Hong Kong.

Bye for now!

Hayley

An Email Reply

Tsui Kin Long F.2

Hi Jo

I'm so happy that you will come to Hong Kong on the 28th of October and will stay for two days. Let me tell you about the schedule that I have planned.

On the first day, I'll bring you to join Art Jamming at the Picasso Art Studio since you are interested in painting and sculpture and this is your major reason for visiting Hong Kong.

The next day we'll go for a stroll in Central which is the most important business district in Hong Kong. Therefore, it is one of the must-go places for you. There you'll discover the world of wonder where the hustle and bustle of the modern city mingle with the colourful age-old traditions. As we walk around, we will see many spectacular skyscrapers symbolizing Hong Kong's international success.

In the evening, I will take you to the SoHo District which is the most famous entertainment zone in Central. It has an attractive mix of creative shops, bars and restaurants serving a huge range of international cuisines including Italian, Spanish, Mexican, Chinese and East-West fusion.

Finally, we will go up to the Peak, the highest mountain on Hong Kong Island. It is a major tourist attraction that offers views over Central, Victoria Harbour and the outlying islands of Hong Kong. The scenery is breathtaking!

Best wishes

Chris

Snow White And Jack

Tsang Wai Cheung F.2

Everyone knows that Snow White is saved by Prince Charming, but is that really what happened? I have another version of the story. Let me tell you what really happened to our beloved Snow White.

All those years, the Queen wanted to kill Snow White. She tried by all means to kill Snow White. However, Snow White was always lucky. Once, eight giants appeared out of the forest to save Snow White. She wondered why they saved her. Eventually, she found out the reason. The giants loved eating human flesh. Snow White was very scared because she was trapped inside the giants' huge house. At that moment, a man called Jack came to rescue her. He asked her to climb down from the giants' house using an enchanted beanstalk. Then he went to kill the giants.

Luckily enough, Jack was able to kill all the giants. Snow White and Jack were so happy. But soon after, they found themselves poisoned. It was the enchanted beanstalk. The queen had put some poison onto it, so both of them were poisoned. They were going to die when something strange happened. They shrank and turned into two beautiful butterflies. Immediately they flew away happily.

So, there is no Prince Charming in this world. When there is danger next time, don't wait for Prince Charming to come and save you!

The Wicked Cinderella

Wu Hoi Yee F.2

Have you heard about the story of Cinderella? I guess many people would think that she is a kind-hearted girl, but I would like to tell you that she isn't! The fairy tale is just beautifying her. No one really knows what she has done. Let me try to unveil her real face to all of you!

Long time ago, there was a girl called Cinderella. She lived with her father, stepmother and two sisters. Her father died when she was very young, but she was not sad about her father's death. Lucky for her, the stepmother loved Cinderella. She treated Cinderella better than her own daughters. However, Cinderella did not really appreciate that. She treated her sisters very badly and her ambition grew day by day. She wanted to become the Queen and rule the whole kingdom.

One Christmas, the Prince sent out party invitations to every girl in town. However, Cinderella was not on the list. The sisters were very happy that Cinderella was not invited. They laughed at her and this made Cinderella very angry. She stole the sisters' invitation cards and went to the palace. She wore the best gown to the party and she was like a sparkling star in the palace. Everyone felt jealous of her beauty.

When the Prince saw her, he wanted to make her the Queen. He invited Cinderella's stepmother to the palace to ask for permission. However, the sisters knew about Cinderella's plan to kill the Prince and made herself the Supreme Queen of the country. They told the Prince. At first the Prince didn't believe it but eventually Cinderella showed her aggression. Finally, the Prince kicked her out of the kingdom and married one of the stepsisters instead.

That is the real Cinderella!

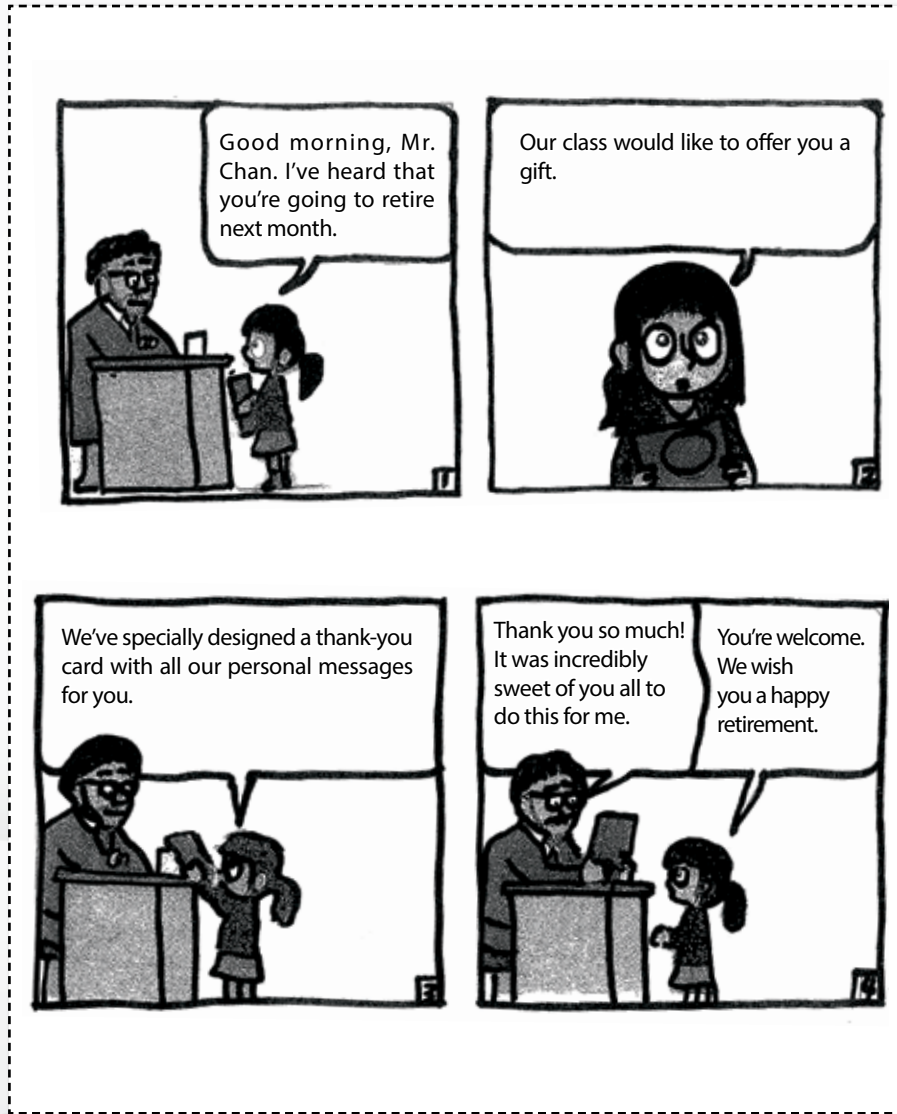
A Farewell Gift

Yeung Lok Yin F.2C (Champion)

Opinion - seeking

Koon Lok F.2C (1st runner-up)

Junior Forms



F.2 Comic Dialogue Competition

A Birthday Gift

Kwok Man Ka F.2C (1st runner-up)

Heidi

Fan Ya Yin F.3C (Champion)

Title: Heidi

Author: Johanna Spyri

Main characters:

- Heidi
- Heidi's grandfather
- Clara

The story

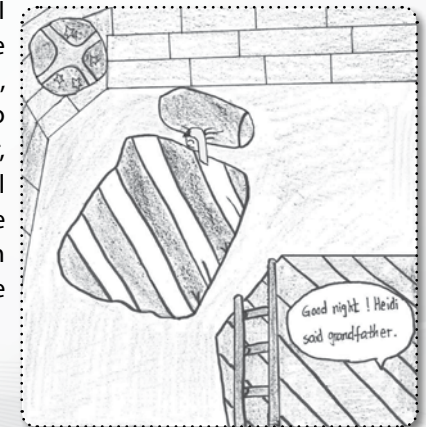
The story was about an orphan called Heidi. She was sent to her grandfather who lived alone in the Alps. Their relationship became closer and closer until Heidi's aunt brought her to Frankfurt to be a playmate with Clara. However, Heidi felt depressed because of homesickness. In the end, Heidi returned to her grandfather and Clara also recovered from her illness.

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

I really enjoy reading this book. I feel so relaxed reading Heidi's experience. I feel like I was communing with nature while I was reading. My favourite part of this book is when Clara visited Heidi's house. I am glad of Clara's recovery and I think Heidi and her grandfather are helpful and kind.

What have you learnt from the book?

I have learnt a lot from this book. I understand that we have to be brave enough when feeling ill. Just like Clara, we can become healthy again. I have also learnt something from the main character, Heidi. She gives up all the material comforts and chooses living in the mountains. If I have to choose between freedom and wealth, I would choose freedom as that is what I treasure most.



Mr Bean's Holiday

Lam Nok Hin F.3D (1st runner-up)

Title: Mr Bean's Holiday

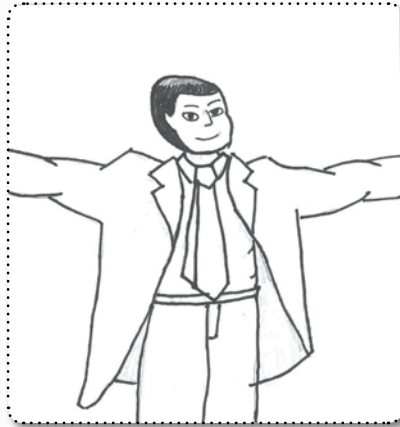
Author: Rowan Atkinson

Main characters:

- a. Mr. Bean
- b. Sabine
- c. Stephan

The story

Mr. Bean won the first prize in a raffle – a holiday involving a train journey to Cannes, France. He unwittingly separated a young boy, Stephan, from his father so he had to help the two reunite. In the end, he succeeded. Stephan met his Dad on a beach and the story ended happily.



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

I like the book because the story is interesting. It is a funny adventure of Mr. Bean. My favourite part of the book is when Stephan finally found his father. It is touching because I think they would never meet again. Everyone, including Mr. Bean, danced together at the beach for the final scene. It is a really happy scenario.

What have you learnt from the book?

From the book, I have learnt to stay positive like Mr. Bean. In his journey, he met many challenges and difficulties. For example, he missed the train and lost the ticket but he could still positively face the problems and continued his journey. This tells me not to give up easily even when facing difficulties.

Peter Pan

Lau Yin F.3C (2nd runner-up)

Title: Peter Pan

Author: J.M Barrie

Main characters:

- a. Peter Pan
- b. Wendy Darling
- c. Tinker Bell

The story

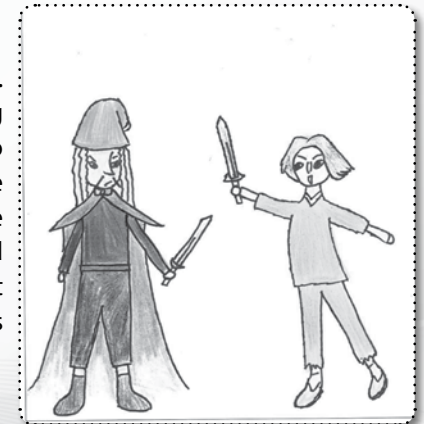
Peter Pan lost his shadow and Wendy helped him to sew on his shadow. Then, Peter Pan flew with Wendy, John and Michael to Neverland to meet the Lost Boys. One day, Wendy, John and Michael decided to return home but the pirates caught them. Then, Peter arrived and fought with the pirates. In the end, the Lost Boys, Wendy and her brothers went to London, but Peter Pan stayed at Neverland.

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

I like this book because it is a wonderful story and my favourite part of this book is the part when Peter Pan fought with the pirate, Captain Hook. I think Peter Pan is very brave and this part shows that good always prevails over evil. Captain Hook fell into the mouth of the crocodile. Therefore, I admire Peter's spirit – brave and fearless.

What have you learnt from the book?

From the book, I have learnt many things. I know that when we meet something terrible, we should be brave and try to overcome it. Moreover, we should be positive and optimistic. Like Peter Pan, we should be a happy person every day and have no worries. Finally, I have learnt that we should treasure and protect our friends and help them when they are in need.



World Cup Final

Li Cheuk Wai F.4

The atmosphere was electric for the Football World Cup final at the Hong Kong Stadium. People from around the world travelled to Hong Kong to watch the final between Germany and Brazil. Brazil appeared to be a much stronger team even it had been defeated by Germany during the 2014 World Cup.

As time progressed, the atmosphere in the stadium became crazier as fans displayed offensive signs targeted at the opponent country. Most of the signs were using foul words or even racist words that destroyed the morale of the opposing team.

After an hour of yelling and chanting slogans, hell finally broke loose as fans began to throw objects and fighting occurred between fans and football players of both countries. Because of the chaos, the final was suspended. The angry Brazilian fans then started to destroy every Audi, BMW and Benz seen on the street, while the German fans were destroying every Brazilian thing they could see. An unfortunate tourist from Macau was beaten up by the Germans as he spoke Portuguese, which is quite similar to the Brazilian language.

I actually puked on the street when I saw a few Brazilian fans trying to assault a German woman, which is a crime far worse than murder. They were later beaten by the riot police with batons and shields and the poor German fan was taken to hospital afterwards.

I ran down to a nearby MTR station to avoid the chaos aboveground. A train then pulled into the station. It was so crowded that I saw the twisted faces of terrified locals trying to keep themselves away from the mob. I then squeezed into the train as police armed with weapons arrived on the platform to end the riot.

The riot was suppressed by the police eventually. Ten people were dead and a thousand were injured. Another thousand were arrested. I learnt from the riot that people shouldn't mess with football fans as you will face bad consequences. To be frank, sporting events are supposed to be healthy and entertaining. If they become riotous, there is no point of holding such events anymore.

Cyber Crime

Lam Tsz Ho F.5

Nowadays, the Internet dominates our everyday life. Thanks to wireless technology, we can now connect to the Internet easily wherever we go. Furthermore, we can even make purchases and settle payments online. However, this increased freedom and convenience have given rise to cyber security concerns. Since our personal computers or web browsers record all kinds of sensitive and confidential information such as credit card numbers and log-in information, criminals have started to scam people on the Internet. Common online crimes such as phishing, hacking and scamming are growing more rapidly than ever.

According to a research study conducted by the UK's Get Safe Online Campaign, cyber crime is growing faster than any other types of crimes these days. For instance, identity theft is increasing at a rate of 40% per year. In 2009, a staggering 22% of Internet users experienced phishing attacks, compared to only 8% in 2007.

As ample evidence shows, more and more people are falling prey to cyber crime and we must educate ourselves on Internet security issues. Therefore, today we are here to share with our fellow students some precautionary measures so as to use the Internet safely and to protect ourselves against cyber crime.

To begin with, let's discuss ways to avoid identity theft. Identity thieves usually obtain the victim's personal details by hacking their computer through installing malware which can transfer data. Whenever the victim logs into some sites or types his or her password, identity thieves will be able to access the victim's credentials and they could do unscrupulous things with this illegally obtained information, such as committing fraud. To protect against identity theft, make sure you have proper and up-to-date security software installed on your computer and program hard disk checks more often to keep your computer safe from the identity thieves as well as malware and viruses.

Another common Internet crime is phishing. Phishers commonly create forged emails and web pages of popular sites such as Facebook, Google or YouTube. Whenever you log into those phishing websites, they will retrieve your account information and use it for crimes. The word "phishing" comes from the word "fishing", where you use bait to lure the fish. None of us wants to be the fish, right? To avoid that, be alert to any erroneous



details of the website when you log in. For example, are there any spelling mistakes? Is the address of the website correct? Leave the website immediately if you find it suspicious.

"I have taken all of the safety measures, so am I safe now?" you may ask. If you want to avoid all types of Internet crimes, there are a few key points you should always bear in mind.

Beware of what you reveal; you should stay as anonymous as possible. Be cautious of people whom you only meet online. Regularly conduct Internet searches to see if your personal details can be accessed online by strangers. By doing that, you should be safe from most of the Internet crimes.

Real Life Thriller

Yick Long Hin F.5

At this point in your life, I believe that you must have seen at least a few thrillers, like "Aliens" or "Scream". This is when a question pops up: Are all these thrillers fictional? I highly doubt they are. For example, the Internet is basically a mash up thriller which involves lots of serial killers and, as always, innocent victims who walk blindly into danger seemingly unaware.

Believe it or not, the Internet is a hundred times more dangerous than a dark alley at midnight. A recent finding in the UK showed that cyber crime is growing faster than any other types of crimes. For instance, identity theft is increasing at a rate of about 40% per year. Moreover, in 2009, 22% of Internet users experienced phishing attacks, compared to only 8% in 2007. With cyber crime growing at such an alarming rate, it goes without saying how vital it is to acknowledge the dangers of the Internet. There are thousands of Internet predators who are capable of stealing your personal details like your ID card number and codes to gain access to your bank account. If not, they might possibly use other information to blackmail you, threatening you to give them a fortune to keep your details from being exposed. So try to convince me if the Internet is not more dangerous than a dark alley at midnight...you can't, right?

In another less extreme scenario, when things haven't gone that far, you still have a chance of being cyber-bullied by your friends. If you're not cautious of protecting your personal information, your friends or classmates might use it for malicious purposes, such as playing pranks on you. This won't end any better than being haunted by Internet predators.

The most effective way to safeguard against cyber crime is to stop posting so many details about your life on the Net. The only reason why Internet predators can hunt you down is that you are not being careful with your personal information online, so stop behaving recklessly online! In addition, purchasing anti-virus software is also a marvelous idea, as it can provide you with professional scanning which can protect your personal details well.

Remember, intelligence is the most effective weapon to keep you safe from all kinds of dangers that you could possibly encounter on the Internet.

Dreadful Depression – How To Fight It?

Yip Yun Kiu F.6

Depression is like a devil. It is so obvious that we should keep our distance from it. But do we even know the necessary steps to avoid getting depressed? It's no wonder so many of us suffer from depression these days.

The first step to relieve ourselves from the curse of depression is to go toe-to-toe with our responsibilities. It goes without saying that in today's world, being responsible is one of the main reasons that people are depressed. We are all weighed down by great responsibilities, to ourselves, our parents and even our society. We have to excel in our school work, be better at certain subjects or simply put, to be well-rounded – in order to earn money to buy a house, own a car, raise a family – all in the shortest time possible. So, how can we not be stressed out? Liberating ourselves in order to have a carefree life, even for one day, would definitely reduce a lot of stress that we face. However, we might soon realize a universal truth – we need to be outwardly obedient while still remaining intelligently and unashamedly rebellious. If not, we might not be able to enjoy some real fun.

The next step in dodging depression is to enjoy ourselves and have fun! One of the key ingredients of a happy life is pleasure. We should do things we love, like drawing, writing, doing sports or shopping. Don't fret about the future! Enjoy the present and have a blast! Success will only go to those who, to a large extent, know how to have fun! Fill your life with pleasure and passion, not with anxiety and worries.

The final way to conquer the slow creep of depression is to face up to your deepest fears and to challenge your negative thoughts. We should not be afraid to fail, to be on our own, or to show others our own weaknesses and vulnerabilities. We should turn our fear into something that nurtures us towards personal growth. Remind yourself not to be fearful – but fearless. The rewards will soon follow.

Finally, in the worst case scenario – if someone really can't deal with their depressed feelings, they should consult a professional. Sometimes human beings are just too weak to stand up against this horrible mental torture.

After all, life is life. It can be violent and random, but it's also beautifully irreplaceable!

Youth Wellbeing Should Be A Priority

Wong Ming Yi F.6

Hong Kong is not only a global financial centre, but also a caring community. Differing age groups reside peacefully together yet each has their own problems. Significantly, our youngsters' happiness is very much on the decline. This shows that they may be facing more pressure and feeling unhappy because of frustrations. This phenomenon conveys an urgent message – we need to show more connectivity, communication and care in regard to our young people. To a large extent, we need to make changes in order to help our younger generation improve their happiness.

You may ask why numerous teenagers are not really happy living in Hong Kong. It is obvious the general atmosphere in school is choking them. They just cannot breathe under the current education system as it is the bane of their existence. Most of the time, our youngsters cannot show off their creativity, potential and imagination. Our society often emphasizes that young people must go to university in order to succeed, even though everyone knows all too well that success is not only limited to this narrow spectrum. Parents, schools and the wider community want youngsters to live up to their unrealistic expectations. However, they don't care how young people feel. Therefore, happiness levels amongst adolescents in Hong Kong are on the decline. They can't be jubilant because of the toll from immense frustrations.

Some may wonder if there is a curse preventing our youngsters from being happy. No one knows. But it seems there is! We know very well that youngsters are one of the paramount elements of any community as they represent the future. If we don't pay more attention to them, it will lead to serious consequences today and long-term. For instance, young people may commit suicide, feel stressed or suffer from anxiety and depression. Sadly, the government does not seem to have attached enough importance in keeping our young generation happy and healthy. We need to strengthen the institutions that speak on behalf of Hong Kong youth.

Every stakeholder has their responsibility for the present situation. The Hong Kong government should give youngsters enough opportunities to show their creative talents. Whether through dancing, music, art, war games, stage plays, Kung Fu, sports or online games, young people should be able and encouraged to express themselves. Furthermore, the government should do what it can do to relieve the financial burden currently faced by many motivated students.

Apart from that, parents and the community should provide more connectivity, communication and support for our young generation. Don't instill the value that university study is everything. University education is just one of the many possible paths to future success.

Every person deserves to live happily, not just princes and princesses in fairytales. Let's help our younger generation be proud and glad to be living here in Hong Kong.

Letter Of Advice

Lo Shuk Heung F.4

Hi Mary

Thank you for your letter. I'm very sorry to hear your problems. I truly understand that you must feel distressed. I hope I can give you some advice.

In your letter, you said your best friend's boyfriend is in love with you. Meanwhile, you think you are in love with him too. Why don't you ask him for a direct answer? If I were you, I would figure it out first. Maybe you are right that the boy really loves you. Even though it is true, I think you should choose your best friend as you two have been best friends since you were five years old. You shouldn't betray your best friend. I am sure the boy is not a good guy. He already has a girlfriend, but still flirts with you. It shows that he is not a devoted person. If you go out with him, one day he will also flirt with other girls and he will break your heart. You will lose both your best friend and your boyfriend.

Another problem is that you are facing your public exam. You said your mum has given you a lot of pressure. Why don't you talk to your mum? It's important that you start a conversation with her. If you don't tell her, she won't know your feelings and thoughts. Also, you should strike a balance between leisure and study. If I were you, I'd draw up a timetable to manage my time well. If you really feel stressed, you can do some sports or listen to music. There are a lot of things that can help you to relax.

Don't worry. Things will work out fine. Please write to me again if you have any problems. I'm always here to stand by you. There's always a solution to every problem.

Best wishes

Cindy

Letter Of Complaint To A Hotel

Leung Kam Wing F.5

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing to express my dissatisfaction with the dinner buffet served at your hotel restaurant two days ago.

First, the presentation of the dishes was terrible. The food and drinks had been spilt on the table. Food debris was everywhere, but no waiters bothered to clean up the place. Also, the restaurant had a greasy smell. It did not look very hygienic.

Second, the quality of the food was appalling. The dishes were messily laid out and their smell was repulsive. The gravy was orange in colour, which suggested heavy coloring. It spoiled my appetite so much that I did not want to try any of the food. In fact, if I had dared to have eaten anything, I probably would have become horribly ill.

I was not the only guest who felt shocked by the abysmal quality of your food. People at a few tables near me were also complaining. Two actually decided to leave.

Finally, the service you provided was very disappointing. The waiters were rude and unhelpful. They had their arms crossed and glared at us the whole time. Some were even playing with their smart phones. When I raised my hand to summon help, they simply ignored me and continued with their own business. I believe that they could benefit from further training to learn the right attitude for this job.

I would appreciate an explanation and a refund from your establishment. I look forward to your reply.

Yours faithfully

Chris Wong

A Graduation Speech

Huang Zijian F.6

Good morning everyone.

The moment we've all been waiting for has arrived. Today is our graduation day. Soon we will face the real world. No more school life, no more classrooms, no more teachers and no more classmates! We don't know what the future holds, but we know our time at secondary school has come to an end. A new type of life begins. No matter whether you choose to carry on with your studies or go to work, life ahead will be completely different. For sure, we all wish that time could stop here; at this moment in our lives, but this is impossible. So we should look forward!

As a child, I had an impossible dream; to chase the sun. A few years back, my chance came. I was on a plane with my family to Japan. The plane was moving at "supersonic" speed. I saw the sun ahead of us and I was hopeful that we could chase after the fireball. However, by the end of the day, we had lost track of it. From that time onwards, I realized that time passes by without hesitation. Nothing will wait for us.

Starting from today, we are on our own. We have finished our secondary school life but that is only a small part of our life story. There is no time to waste. We must start planning our future. What we do or plan to do will help shape our life but the only way to make our future better is by grabbing every second we can to do something that matters. Don't waste your time lying in bed thinking about nothing. Take the initiative and start planning for your future. What your plan actually is does not matter. You just need one to lead you through different stages of life.

I wish that time could stop, but it can't. During my whole secondary school life, I wasted a lot of time day-dreaming in class. Now, even though I want another chance, I can't turn back time. I realize that time is really like a diamond. We should not waste it for nothing. In the future, if you waste your time, you may miss the chance for a better life, or you may even lose an important person in your life.

Time is like a hamster on a wheel. It will never stop. As secondary school graduates, we should never let time slip away. I hope we can spend our time wisely for our own life's sake. Thank you!

Hong Kong Bottom Of Happiness Survey

What do you think of the quality of life in Hong Kong? How can you define "happiness"? Do you feel happy living in Hong Kong?

Lam Tsz Kit F.4

I think the quality of life in Hong Kong is good. It is because the government gives us more benefits than in China. For example, we can enjoy low-priced but excellent medical services. The area that I am strongly dissatisfied with is housing. It is because if we want to live in the public housing estates, we have to wait for many years. Happiness to me means having less pressure. I do not feel happy living in Hong Kong since there are a lot of study stresses and the competition is very intense.

Lo Yung Ching F.5

The quality of life in Hong Kong is getting poor. Housing and environmental protection are the two areas that I am strongly dissatisfied with because the high price of housing does not match with the income of Hong Kong citizens and most of the developers are destroying our natural areas. Having satisfaction with one's life and enjoying health determines people's happiness. Many people in Hong Kong are under a lot of pressure at work or study. I am not happy living in Hong Kong. If I had a chance to migrate to another country, I would choose to live in Norway or Denmark where life is not so stressful.

Yick Long Hin F.5

I think the quality of life in Hong Kong is becoming much worse than it used to be. The housing problems and public health services are what I am strongly dissatisfied with. Our government only cares about the wealthy people but not the poor and those worthless politicians are not doing what they should be doing in order to make the best use of the public money. I feel happy if I can create a good balance between work and leisure so that I can chill out with my loved ones and also I need not worry about money. All these prove that I do not feel happy living in Hong Kong.

Should Exams Become History?

Will exams destroy learning interest among young people? How should schools assess a student's performance?

Ko Hon Hin F.4

I think exams destroy learning interest among young people. Having exams will make students feel lots of pressure and some students may think that it will destroy their learning interest. If they fail in the exams many times, they will not want to study anymore. Hence, I think schools should abolish exams. They can adopt an assessment-based learning framework, or have a group-based project on a specific subject. These assessment methods can relieve students' stress and they will have more fun when studying. It can also elevate their learning interest.

Hui Wing Sum F.5

Examinations put high pressure on students. Undoubtedly, competition can make us perform better. However, the intense competition makes us unenthusiastic about learning. Parents only pay attention to the academic achievement of their children. Also, they are influenced by the concept of winning at the starting line, so they will compel their children to join lots of tutorial classes and activities. Therefore, exams absolutely will destroy the learning interest among young people. I think this is the failure of the education system in Hong Kong. We can use other ways to assess students' performance to enable them to learn effectively. For example, project work which enables students to be assessed in a relaxed way.

Tung Suet Ying F.5

I think exams will not destroy learning interest among young people because exams are the best way to test students' achievement. Students who like to learn will want to know their abilities. Examinations are a good competitive method to enhance the determination of students to learn. I think schools can also assess a student's performance by giving homework, tests and quizzes. All these can reflect students' knowledge and also the strengths and weaknesses of students. If teachers can make adjustments accordingly, students can learn more effectively.

Climb Your Way Back Up

Chung Kwan Wa F.4A (Champion)

This photo was taken with my friend who participated in a race on Sports Day. We became friends after this event. I didn't join any events but I volunteered to help out with taking care of injured students on that day.

Something amazing happened during the 100 meters race. One of the participants was rather plump. I expected him to lose but he actually ran pretty fast which surprised me so much that I started rooting for him. Sadly when he was in the lead he tripped and injured himself. I considered going onto the track to help him out but suddenly he stood up and continued the race. Having fallen down on the ground for six to seven seconds, he lagged behind. However, he didn't give up despite the fact that another student was already a few steps away from the finishing line.

He ran as fast as he could, changing the fact that he was in the last place. Somehow he still won a placing. His willpower allowed him to climb his way back up to achieve the seemingly impossible; to win the race.

After that, I rushed to him, nursed him and chatted with him which was the start of our friendship. Because of that astounding result, it made me realize, if I had the willpower, I could overcome everything just like him.



Christmas Gathering

Liu Ka Leong F.4A (1st runner-up)



December is considered by majority of the people around the world to be the happiest month of the year. The reason is that our favourite festival, Christmas, falls within this month.

One Christmas, my family were having a very delightful day, but my little sister did not seem to be happy. She was the type of person who often

felt depressed, so my whole family never expected she would do anything to celebrate Christmas.

It ought to be a very happy day for my family since it was my mum's birthday too! But my sister had done something that shocked the whole family! That morning, my dad and I went to my grandparents' house to pick them up for our family Christmas party. When we returned home, my mum had already finished cooking and we started our lunch together but my sister was not there, so I asked my mum, "Mum, where is Lucy?"

"She is still sleeping like a pig," replied Mum. Meanwhile, we noticed my sister walking downstairs and she stared fiercely at Mum. There was a complete silence for two minutes as Lucy walked back to her bedroom.

We started our birthday party without Lucy, thinking that she needed to have a break. Mum asked me to take a piece of cake to my sister. When I went into her room, nobody was there and the windows had been opened. Immediately, I rushed downstairs, shouting "Oh God! Lucy has gone!"

Dad started to drive around the town looking for Lucy. A couple of hours later I found my sister in a shopping center. I ran to her and grabbed her hand and tried to bring her back to Dad's car. But Lucy said, "I don't want to be unhappy. I want to be free." I was touched and said, "My little sister, no one wants to make you sad. Maybe we've used the wrong way to cheer you up." I held her hand tightly and we walked slowly back home together.

Pokemon Go Craze

Li Cheuk Wai F.4A (2nd runner-up)



Launched in July 2016, Pokemon Go has become the world's biggest gaming hit, as it incorporates many new technologies such as Virtual Reality (VR) and GPS based gameplay. Many gamers and people who usually stay at home after work are now going out to play this game. It is fun but it is also a headache for governments around the world.

For example, when a rare Pokemon known as "Mewtwo" appeared on I-880 Interstate Highway in the US, players actually flocked to the Highway to capture it, ignoring ongoing traffic. It shows the madness caused by the game. Many similar crazy incidents followed.

In Bosnia, a war broke out about 20 years ago leaving behind many mines which were buried deep down under the ground. Since those mines still haven't been cleared, players were warned by their government of the deadly consequences of having their eyes glued to their phones searching for Pokemon. In Sokcho, a Korean town well-known for its beautiful sea view, the entire South Korean Pokemon Go playing community descended on the small town to hunt for Pokemon. The locals found it not so pleasant.

The world has changed into a crazy one because of people's addiction to this viral mobile game "Pokemon Go" and the chaos it has created.

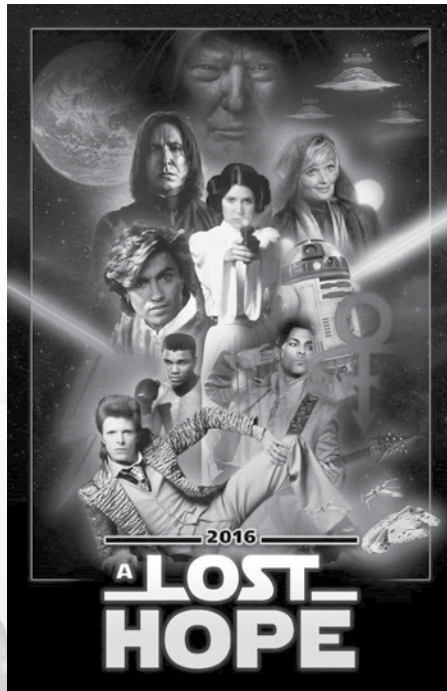
The Nightmarish Year Of 2016

Yick Long Hin F.5A (Champion)

We welcomed the end of 2016, as it marked the end of what was a nightmarish year. A lot of awful things happened. It was just like the picture declares: "A LOST HOPE". Too many legends passed away without the chance for a decent farewell from their loyal fans. The pop industry suffered great losses along with fans of Star Wars.

On the morning of the 28th of December, a few days after the death of George Michael, I was checking the news as usual, when an unfortunate, unexpected, upsetting news item popped up. Carrie Fisher had passed away. Fisher was an actress famous for her portrayal of Princess Leia in the classic Star Wars films and set to star in the new trilogy of films. You can't imagine how hard that news hit me, as just ten hours earlier, I'd watched Rogue One: Star Wars Story and had seen her cameo as the young Princess Leia. But the employee-of-the-year, the Grim Reaper, did not just stop there, just one month later, her mother Debbie Reynolds, who was also a famous actress, passed away too. R.I.P. Fisher Carrie and Debbie Reynolds – may the force be with you.

The madness didn't just end with these two fallen legends; along with Brexit, the rise of ISIS terrorism, and refugees all around Europe, let's just say 2016 was a bad, bad year. But hey, what doesn't kill you makes you stronger, right? Each challenge you have to overcome is just like each quench of a well-forged blade; challenges are meant to be overcome, to make those who dare to face them stronger. What's my New Year's resolution? It's to embrace and overcome challenges. Moreover, I hope to finally realize my goals. I hope that 2017 won't fail us and we will unite to make the world a better place.



Memorable Concert - Highlight Of The Year

Shek Ching Hung F.5A (1st runner-up)

A date that will be etched in my mind forever is the 23rd of December, 2016 – the date of my band's concert. We had been training hard for the five months leading up to the concert. Over this period, we tried to master the songs that we would sing by spending between seven to nine hours every Saturday practising. We had put everything into preparing for this show, and we hoped that our performance would be awesome and perfect. Sometimes we would have some arguments with one another. But we solved our problems one by one and eventually our disagreements led to a more successful show. Furthermore, the process of conflict resolution made us more mature. This show was not just for the audience; it was also meaningful for us as it was an important part of our lives.

On the morning of the concert, we awoke excitedly and began our preparations for that evening. We delivered our instruments to the concert venue in Fo Tan. After we had set up the stage and performed our final rehearsal, we went backstage to get ready. We were so nervous and a little bit scared that our fans wouldn't show up.

Later, when we were on stage, I looked down at the audience and I knew this night was the best night of the year. Everyone was holding their green flashlights and cheering for us. Then we started to sing. For us, this was not just a show; this was the most perfect gift of the year.

The concert ran successfully and the reaction of the audience was great. Their enthusiasm and support continually motivated us to keep making music. They made the concert a great success. We love you all and thank you!!!



Sun Came Out For Family Reunion

Cheung Chun Ming F.5B (2nd runner-up)

This photo is of my family. It's very precious to me as it's our first family photo since I turned 15 years old. This is due to the fact that my parents work in the mainland and my sister studies there as well. I'm the only one who lives in Hong Kong.

We took this photo together during a worship party at the Kowloon Walled City Park.

Let me introduce my family members – I guess I don't really need to because you can easily tell – but it shows my mum, my dad and my younger sister. On that day, the weather report foresaw that it would be rainy. But luckily, the sun came out and brought a warm day for my family.

That was amazing and so was the place.



F.5 Facebook Photo Sharing Competition

The Race Between Man And Machine And Its Impacts On The Relationship Between Man And The Earth

Chung Kwan Wa F.4A



I believe that everyone knows about the machines that we have today, but there are also quite a lot of problems about them, so I am here to talk about the race between man and machines and its impacts on the relationship between man and the Earth.

First of all, I will talk about the benefits of using machines. Machines are much more capable of doing dangerous tasks. For instance, if a task is proven difficult or dangerous to humans, we can simply have it done by machines. Moreover, machines are reliable. Machines do not have feelings like humans. Humans will feel stressed and mess up with their given tasks, but machines will not. Moreover, machines are efficient. They can finish tasks very quickly. Therefore, machines can increase productivity.

Another advantage of machines is that they can help us gather information and reduce our stress. Most people have smartphones. A smartphone can provide information around the globe to the users as well as some forms of entertainment. So technology can also help us gather information and reduce our stress.

Despite the numerous advantages that machines bring us, there are also some drawbacks of using machines. One of the most obvious problems is that machines will raise the unemployment rate in countries that replace workers with machines. Another problem is that if machines malfunction, it will slow down the production process for factories that heavily depend on machines.

The final problem that I would like to talk about is war. Machines have helped with our defense, such as guns, tanks and nuclear bombs. Surely, these inventions can protect us from terrorists or attacks from other countries, but had we not invented them in the first place, how would we have been attacked and killed? Therefore, machines are the cause of wars and deaths of innocent people.

There are many pros and cons of using machines, but what is the impact of machines on the relationship between man and the Earth? Let's consider the smartphones. Smartphones weaken the bond between humans and the Earth by allowing us to obtain information, contact people and relax at home. Consequently, we can stay at home all day without having to go outside. However, the biggest problem is not about smartphones, it is about the air-conditioners. In summer, we usually turn on the air-conditioners at home. Of course, there are people who go to the beach or do exercise. The problem is that not many people go out anymore nowadays, the same problem brought about by smartphones. However, air-conditioners are much worse – not only do they make you feel so comfortable that you want to stay at home all day long, but the refrigerant also contains chemicals that damage the ozone layer and worsen global warming. As a result, icebergs in the Arctic will melt faster; animals in the Arctic go extinct; natural disasters and extreme weather will happen much more often; millions to billions of people will die or suffer from hunger and diseases. Most importantly, the Earth will be damaged to the point where being outdoors may become virtually impossible.

In the end, I believe that machines are meant to help mankind, but instead they do the opposite. However, it is just my personal opinion. Maybe mankind will invent some machines that can save us one day. Until then, my opinion on machines will not change.



The Race Between Man And Machine And Its Impacts On The Relationship Between Man And The Earth

Lau Yat Hin F.5B



Nowadays, machines have improved a lot. People now compare machines to humans. The race between them has begun. Humans and machines are competent in different areas and they both have their strengths and weaknesses.

Machines are more productive than humans. Humans will feel tired and stressed while machines will not. Look at the machines that make thousands of products every day. Just give them a formula and they will do the rest. They work faster and increase the productivity.

However, machines also have their shortcomings, such as the lack of creativity. Machines can produce the same thing again and again, but it can never create a unique product.

Meanwhile, although man is slower, he does not need a code or formula to live. He can create and keep traditions. He knows what to keep and what to abandon. This is also a unique trait of man. Man lives from generation to generation, forming relationships and preserving traditions.

Entrepreneurs like Martin Ford observed that machines are replacing humans in different jobs. It is true that machines have made so much progress that it is threatening the superiority of humans. The match between AlphaGo, a computer, and Lee Sedol, the Korean master in Go, ended with the triumph of the computer. The machine won, but it is never an end of the chess game. People want to play chess because it is fun, but winning is only part of the fun.

That leads to another important point. Human beings make mistakes because they have emotions. Machines do not have emotions. Lee Sedol felt stressed but AlphaGo did not.

Take space exploration as another example. It was the passion, ambition and curiosity of humans that made it possible. Humans look at the stars and wonder what is in space. Then, they build space shuttles and space stations to explore space.

A job is a job to a machine. Felling trees is a job. Playing chess is another job. Pumping dusts and pollutants to the air is a job too. It is something we should be careful about. If we are afraid that machines are becoming more and more like man, or even better than man, we should ask ourselves if we are becoming too much like a machine by treating everything as a job.

We should also remember that although machines are faster and will not get tired, we must not let them dominate our lives. Think about the following: what do we do when we have problems? Seek help from our family, friends, or a search engine? Where do we go when we feel bored? To the playground for a football match or to a social networking website?

The relationship between man and machines is complex, but it is also exciting and thought-provoking. The race will continue as humans continue to dream and create.



F.4-5 Lions International Essay Writing Competition

Assassin's Creed - Black Flag

Huang ZiJian F.6A



The story

Edward was an Irish. He wanted to make his wife happy and not to worry about their life. So he took the offer to become a privateer. This was where his journey began.

For a few years, Edward sailed across the sea. He became an experienced seaman. One day he and his crew were attacked by the navy. All the ships sank. When Edward woke up, he found himself on a beach with a man wearing a hood. It was the man that attacked them but somehow they ended up on the same island. The man was a traitor. He was an assassin that chose to betray the Brotherhood of the Assassins and disclose the information about The Observatory (The treasure) to the

assassins' greatest enemy – The Order of Templar. Observation was a place that could monitor everyone's act and to achieve that, they only needed a drop of blood from the person they wanted to monitor. Edward killed that man and he found a letter from a Templar. When Edward noticed he would be rewarded handsomely, he decided to claim the reward even though it did not belong to him. He took the suit from the traitor, put on his hood and made his way to claim his "prize".

The Templars realized that he was a fake, so they threw him into a prison. There, he met Adewale. Together they got away and hijacked a ship called Jackdaw. Edward's only goal was to find the Observatory. He wanted to find the Observatory before the Templars.

Mary was a female assassin. She tried to recruit Edward but Edward refused. A few years later, Mary was killed by the Templars. This was the first time Edward felt the pain of losing a friend. So he joined the Brotherhood and swore that one day he would kill all the people responsible for Mary's death. He succeeded. Then he handed over the Observatory to the Brotherhood and returned home as a father.

The real definition of the creed – “Nothing is True, Everything is Permitted”

At first Edward thought the creed was an answer to his own desires, but after he lost his friend, he realized that his definition of the creed was too selfish. From that moment onwards, he started to think about his friends and not just of himself. He started to sacrifice himself for the people he cared for. This made him a real hero.

When Edward stood up for his friends, I learnt that friendship involves two parties but sometimes we ask for more than we have given out. So after Edward had lost his friend, he started to “give”. This teaches me an important lesson – we should try to care more about our friends before it is too late.

Other than friendship, this book also teaches us to cherish our family. Edward became a privateer just because he wanted to make his family wealthy enough. He was right, but he misinterpreted what a happy life was. Edward left his wife and his unborn daughter. When he finally got what he wanted, his wife had gone. It was such a shame. So from Edward's story, we can feel how bad he felt when he realized what he had lost. So I really think that we should spend more quality time with our family. It can be as simple as sitting down for a few minutes chatting over something unimportant.

To analyze the creed further – “Nothing is True, Everything is Permitted,” somehow, when I first read this creed, the same idea as Edward's came to my mind. Literally we can do whatever we want and it is just the basic instinct of all living beings. However, that is not what the creed actually meant. Let's talk about Edward as an example. After he became a privateer, we can see the real him – a person who was selfish, arrogant and aggressive. No doubt this was his beastly instinct. Then he got captured and while imprisoned, he looked back at his previous life and realized nothing would last forever. The loss of his friend was mainly due to his obsession with the Observatory. Other than that, he was so obsessed with the materialistic comforts that he missed the chance to say how much he loved his wife. Edward learnt his lesson by trying to achieve something little but losing something big in the end. What Edward had gone through reminded us not to focus on something unachievable, but to hold on to what we already have.

The creed told us to seek the truth. If you ask fans of the book about the real meaning of the creed, they will tell you to seek the truth for yourself. As from what I believe, the creed tells us that we won't lose anything for “everything is permitted”. We have to start giving, not just taking from others. That is what the creed teaches me.

Gang Leader For A Day

Tsui Wai Yin F.6A



The story

Robert Taylor Homes

Gang Leader for a Day was written by Sudhir Venkatesh who claims to be a rogue sociologist. He did some research about the poorest community in Chicago – the Robert Taylor Homes public housing. He met a small-time gang leader of the “Black Kings” gang, named JT.

A rogue sociologist jumps in without thinking ahead

The story began with a flashback of Sudhir Venkatesh waking up in the Robert Taylor Homes. Venkatesh was surrounded by some gangsters when he went into the Lake Park housing area to do research. He was saved by JT who encouraged him to continue with his project.

The gang leader had studied at university. Wait, are you serious?

JT told Venkatesh that he studied sociology when he was in university. Venkatesh was shocked. However, life as a university student was boring, so he went back to the street. This proved that JT was smart. He was very talented at selling drugs and managing human resources. His skills even got him promoted to a leadership position within the gang.

Sudhir Venkatesh's life in Robert Taylor Homes

Robert Taylor Homes was an autonomous society under JT's management. The environment was too bad for any outsiders. For example, the residents of Robert Taylor Homes would beat or even kill the police that went in; the “Black Kings” there might hurt the ambulance men. If you dialed 999, the emergency hotline, the line would get cut off when the operator realized that the victim was calling from the Robert Taylor Homes.

Gang leader for a day

Venkatesh got the chance to be a gang leader for a day. He experienced so many difficulties that he hadn't even considered before. He had this

opportunity because JT gave all the decision-making and drug-dealing trade to him. He made some hard decisions that day. He found out how hard JT's job was and became more understanding towards the people of Robert Taylor Homes.

A decision

Venkatesh had to make a tough decision between opposing positions to "keep doing the research" or "stop the research before breaking the law". The professors in the university knew about his research and his method of getting it done. They suggested Venkatesh asking for legal advice. His lawyer told him that he should tell the police if he knew someone would get hurt. It was obvious that Venkatesh would get into trouble.

Betray or be betrayed

One of the highlights was when Venkatesh was betrayed by JT and Ms. Bailey. Venkatesh shared everyone's income with JT and Ms. Bailey. He didn't realize he was doing something wrong at that time since he didn't notice JT and Ms. Bailey were forcing people to pay more money to them. Every worker hated him and he felt like he was betraying those workers and was fooled by JT and Ms. Bailey. Undoubtedly, with this in mind, Venkatesh's research schedule was being affected.

In the end

T-Bone, one of JT's gang members, gave a notebook of the gang's cashflow statements to Venkatesh. It was an important item to help him study the gang's financial activities. After Venkatesh had finished his research, T-Bone died; JT quitted the "Black Kings" and lived on the money he earned. Venkatesh said that JT had become an important character in his life.

Feeling and self-reflection

The story was written in the first-person. It allowed readers to get immersed in the story very easily. I would love to recommend this book especially to all the government officials in Hong Kong. I hope they can better understand the needs of the youngsters living in housing estates here. As JT said in the book, "With people like us, you should hang out, get to know what we do and how we do it". Hong Kong Government, don't just sit in your arm-chairs and guess what we, the citizens, need. The most effective way to identify problems in society and how to address them is to get out of your comfy office and "live" daily life with us.