

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dr Yuen Pong Yiu

On 28 April 2010, the English Musical *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* was staged in the Academic Community Hall of Baptist University to celebrate the 15th anniversary of Tin Ka Ping Secondary School (TKPSS). The spectacular performance of a total of nearly two hundred TKPSS students received overwhelming applause; the morale and pride of every TKPSSer present were lifted up immensely.

Technicolor Dreamcoat is a milestone in the development of TKPSS. It brought great feelings of success to the students, parents, teachers and other staff, but first of all, it demonstrated their commitment to creating something special; and it recounted the efforts of our teachers and students to achieve great results. It represents the successful transfer by our school to an EMI system. It sings the dream of all TKPSSers. It also signifies the long awaited birth of *TINspiration*, the first collection of our students' English works.

The success of *Technicolor Dreamcoat* did not come overnight, and nor will *TINspiration*. *Technicolor Dreamcoat* represents a journey of four to five years, from an English drama five years ago, to the preliminary shape of an English musical two years ago, and to its shining appearance on stage this spring. Perseverance has made the *Dreamcoat* reality. Likewise, *TINspiration* comes from an earlier stage, when fewer of our students' English works were considered of high quality, thus teachers compiled them into an attachment of our Chinese anthology "Bing Fong Collection". Then in recent years more and more good pieces of writing came into view with hard work of teachers and students alike. Our students' writing skills have been steadily sharpened. Today, *TINspiration* is presented seasonably with cooperation from the English Department.

Both *Technicolor Dreamcoat* and *TINspiration* are the result of a great deal of hard work from all staff and students. While *Dreamcoat* is woven with students' love for English musicals, *TINspiration* is tinted with their affection for writing in English. They are both testament to the efforts of our people to further improve the English level school-wide, and to make the transfer to EMI a successful undertaking.

It is a delight to welcome the arrival of *TINspiration*. This first collection is primarily made up of our students' works published in newspapers and magazines over the past year, and a few essays as well. Drawn from all year levels, they demonstrate a wide variety of views and ideas, yet all of them share one idea; that English communication is important and worth doing well!

Finally, all comments and advice are welcome from the education community. Our students will greatly benefit from your input.



How to Stay Healthy

1A Chan Tsz Lam

Are you a healthy person? Health is a very important thing for everyone. If we cannot stay healthy, maybe we will be sick. But how can we stay healthy? Let me tell you some methods.

First of all, doing more exercise is a method to stay healthy. It can stimulate our metabolic rate. How often do you do exercise and how long do you spend on exercise each time? We should do exercise for at least thirty minutes each time. There are many kinds of exercise we can choose from, such as running, basketball, jumping, football and etc. We should choose suitable places to do exercise because fresh air is also important. We can breathe in fresh air in suburbs and some open areas.

Secondly, taking more rest is also an important thing to stay healthy. As we always concentrate on our work and studies, we should always take breaks in the daytime and sleep for at least seven hours every day. We can also do other activities like reading and shopping to relax.

On the other hand, we should eat more vegetables and fruits because they are rich in vitamins, minerals and dietary fibre. All of them can protect our body. We should not eat too much fast food. It does not provide us with a balanced diet. If we eat too much fatty food, we will be overweight or suffer high blood pressure. So we should eat different types of food and follow the food pyramid to stay healthy.

In conclusion, everyone can be a healthy person. If you are not healthy, you should do more exercise, take more rest, eat more vegetables and fruits. Stay healthy now!



My Visit to Ocean Park

1C Leung Siu Ching, Kristy

Yesterday, I went to Ocean Park with my mum. It was a lot of fun and I was exhausted when I got home.

First, I went on the Ferris Wheel, but my mum didn't go on it because she was so scared. On the top of the Ferris Wheel, I saw very beautiful views and I saw two birds in front of me. I think they were a couple. They danced in the sky! After that, I saw a couple. They also went on the Ferris Wheel. The boy was shy and timid, and the girl didn't like him in that way. At the end, they broke up.

Finally, we had lunch at Café Ocean. There were many kinds of food; lemon chicken, pineapple buns, barbecued pork buns, egg tarts..... They are all Hong Kong local delights. But the funniest was the waiters' uniform. Some of them dressed themselves like dolphins. Some others dressed themselves like jellyfish. It was so cute!

I like Ocean Park very much! I hope I can go there again in the near future.

A Dream

1D Wong Kai Lok

*I dream a butterfly.
It flies and flies
flies to the sky
flies to the ocean
flies into my dream
and falls into cream.*



'Oh! Where are you, Miss?' - A Half Imaginary story

1E Lau Tsz Yan

Yesterday, my class was supposed to have three English lessons. Taught by my favorite subject teacher Miss Cheung, English is my favorite subject.

While we, my classmates and I, were waiting for Miss Cheung, the principal came to our classroom and said 'Attention, everyone! I have something to announce. Your English teacher, Miss Cheung, has left without informing us beforehand. Miss Yu will be your English teacher until a new English teacher is employed or until Miss Cheung comes back. This is Miss Yu. You can now have your English lesson.'

At that moment, I was very sad and wanted to cry. However, as we were having the lesson, I tried my best to pay attention in class without unleashing my emotion. 'Oh, where are you, Miss Cheung? I miss you so much!' I thought.

Today, the principal came to our classroom again. He smiled and said 'I am so sorry, class. I was so careless that I forgot Miss Cheung had told me she needed to go and study for a week. She has not disappeared, don't worry and you will see her a week later.'

I was so relieved after hearing what the principal had said. Now, I simply look forward to next Monday—the day when Miss Cheung is back!



Is your generation wiser than your grandparents' generation?

1B Chu Kit Ling



What is “wise”? Does being wise mean having high IQ and EQ? To most people, being wise means possessing verbal skills, logical reasoning, problem-solving ability, leadership and creativity. But to me, wisdom is something far more than those abilities. Also, we cannot assess whether or not a person is wise only by his achievement.

Some people in my generation think being wise equals having knowledge, so only scientists, scholars or doctors can be regarded as wise people. They even think my grandparents' generation is stupid as the elder generation does not understand some very simple vocabulary. I do not agree with them. I think the wisdom of two generations cannot be compared fairly as their living circumstances and problems faced are very different.

Take cooking as an example. Many people in my grandparents' generation could cook by themselves by the time they were eight. But in my generation, many people cannot cook by themselves even though they are 18 years old. Also when we have problems or need advice on anything, we usually find our grandparents as, thanks to their life experience, their problem solving ability is higher than ours ! Nevertheless, does this mean my grandparents' generation is wiser?

In Hong Kong, many students nowadays are trained as examination machines. This can be shown by the fact that we can find many tutorial or training courses in Hong Kong. But in my grandparents' generation, there were not tutorial or training courses. So they studied harder than us. We have technological inventions such as computers, so that we can get access to information easily. But in the past, there were no such advanced technological inventions, so people had to find teachers or books to get the information. Do you still think one generation is wiser, now that we know the living conditions of these two generations are distinctly different?

In my generation, many people make good use of the internet to communicate with others via MSN and Facebook. In some cases, teenagers addicted to the internet may find it difficult to communicate with others in reality. Some are even socially isolated. But many people in my grandparents' generation know how to communicate with others. That means some members of my generation just know how to operate technological inventions but do not know how to communicate.

In my generation, many people are not self-reliant enough. We are just dependent on electrical appliances or other people. In the past, many people in my grandparents' generation came from poor families. In order to make a living, they started to work when they were children. Also, their family could not afford to pay expensive tuition fee. Therefore they could not go to school. That meant they did not have as many opportunities to learn as us.

I think the wisdom of two generations cannot be compared fairly so I do not think one is wiser than the other. We should not look down on the people in my grandparents' generation. Instead, to ensure the common good of society, people from all generations should join hands and build a society that all of us like to live in!

Love is all around

2A Lau Wing Lam

Love is in our school,

Every time,
Everywhere,
Around our school,
Is full of care.

Teacher, students, every single flower,
Can feel the love.
Can you see my eyes
Which are full of joy?

Walk to the playground,
Find students playing football, basketball and volleyball,
With laughter and smiles
Everywhere

Upstairs in the classrooms,
Students sit up straight,
Listen to the teachers attentively,
Warming teachers' hearts

Inside the canteen,
Cooks make yummy food,
Making everyone warm,
As well as happy

Oh, how I love TKPSS!!!
Oh, there is so much love in TKPSS!!!



TKPSS in my Eyes

2E Ma Sai Man

In my eyes, TKPSS is a great school.

I remember that when I first came to this school, I thought that TKPSS was full of peace in every corner, but yet, it is full of vitality. The teachers and the students were nice. I had a lot of questions about this school at that time. I asked some students here but they did not feel annoyed. They answered my questions patiently.

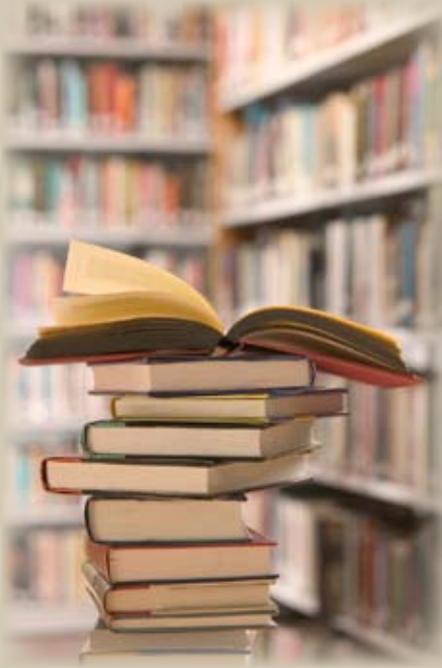
When I was in Form One, I had a lot of problems in my studies. My classmates were very nice and helpful. They solved my questions immediately. I was very thankful for their help. This year, I think my school life was interesting and exciting. I even watched films with my classmates in the cinemas! It was a wonderful experience as I had never watched films not with my parents before.

I feel very happy that I can study in this school. This is a place of love. I have a lot of good memories here. I have also learnt a lot of things in these two years. I know that we should not only dream but also realize our dreams. Otherwise, they will be regrets in our lives.



The Library at night

2B Leung Yip Fung



I got a corner seat in the library study room in the evening. I worked hard for a few hours as my examination was coming. I was tired, so I slept for a while. But as I woke up, it was mid-night. The library was locked and no one was there except an old man who looked mysterious.

The old man was wearing a grey shirt and black trousers. He was sitting next to the librarian's office and didn't move at all! I started to feel scared because he looked scary and the library was very dark. I went in front of the old man and said, 'Excuse me,'. There was no reply, so I said it again. Then, the old man said, 'Take book number ER764 from that shelf.' I found the book quickly. The title was 'Spells'. The old man then started to re ad the book and read the spells with a weak voice.

The old man looked evil and said 'Welcome to the midnight library of hell!' I was really scared to death and I tried to escape from the library. But all the doors were locked. 'Why do you run away? Join us now!' said the old man. Suddenly, the clock struck six. It was six in the morning! The sun started to rise. Then everything became quiet. The old man disappeared and the doors were unlocked. I ran out immediately. I saw a sign that stated, 'Welcome to Tuen Mun Public Library.' Sure, there is a horrible secret in the library.

My Life in TKPSS

2C Tsang Chiu Yin, Jessica

Frankly, studying at TKPSS for only two years, I don't have many unforgettable experiences concerning my school life. Most of my experiences are with schoolmates and teachers.

In the last Athletics Meet, I was a member of the House cheering team and needed to perform in front of all my schoolmates. We had to get some sweat pants for performance, or we were not allowed to perform. Unfortunately, I forgot to bring them to the stadium on that day. I felt nervous about what I should do. I wanted to ask others for suggestions. But I was embarrassed to ask. Most importantly, I didn't want to lose my chance to perform because I had already put effort into it--I spent time practicing well.



Time flies, it was time to perform. At the time I was extremely worried, a girl in my house lent her short sweat pants to me. I deeply appreciated her kindness. You know, if she hadn't lent her short sweat pant to me, I would never have performed.

All in all, I think someone who helps you willingly and selflessly can be a good friend. If you want your classmates to help you solve problems, you should take the initiative to help others even if you don't know them. Actually, TKPSS is full of loving people. You know, love is all around.

Welcome to my Utopia!

2D Choy Ching Yuet, Moon

One day, I was woken up by a noise..... 'beep!'. Once I opened my eyes, I found everything was different. My parents had disappeared. My bedroom was not the same. Formerly, the walls were pink, and the furniture was decorated with pictures of Melody, Winnie the Pooh and Minnie! Above all, my alarm wouldn't make a 'beep' sound. Instead, it should have been ringing the chorus of my favourite piece of Classical music 'Fur Elise'! Why did it change to a different sound? Why was everything so unusual today? I was so confused at the moment. And I shouted anxiously, 'Can anyone explain to me, why is everything weird? Help! Where is it? Am I a prisoner? Can anyone give me a reply? Please!'

And when I was crying, suddenly a robot came. He looked very amusing and so I stopped crying. Then, he said, 'Be cheerful! You shouldn't be sad for living here! Welcome to 'Hapia'! My name is Peter. I am a resident and student here. Now I will take you to the palace at the metropolis----'Agoo', let's go!'

Within a moment, I was brought to a wonderful room. I was really confused about 'Hapia' that Peter had mentioned. Was this place called Hapia? Was it an exosociety? Was Peter an E.T.? Or was he a spaceman? Oh no! I want to get home! I don't want to live here!

I looked around this room. No 'people' were standing there. I just saw many E.Ts like Peter. They all looked strong but laughable. They didn't show any emotion. But their mouths were open and smiled all the time. 'Ha! Ha! Ha!' I laughed loudly until I heard Peter shouted 'Hey! Shh.....'

The funny E.Ts all knelt down and said 'Good wishes for King Leo, Queen Diana and our auspicious 'Hapia'! 'I was just like a foolish because I was still standing. Peter reminded me 'Be polite!' And so I said 'Hi, King Leo! Hello, Queen Diana! How do you do?'

After my greeting, a silence fell. Being a bit scared, I was wondering if I had done or said something wrong. Was I wrong and impolite? Should I say sorry? I was really worried until the King broke the ice with loud laughter. 'I see, you don't know the rules of the palace, I am not blaming you. Never mind!'. I replied 'I am sorry.....and thank you,'

He continued.

'Welcome, Moon. Welcome to my Utopia!'

'Your Utopia?'

'Yes, this place is called 'Hapia', a happy country on the earth .Don't get anything wrong. We are not E.T. All of our citizens are robots, except Diana, Peter, you and me.'

'But why am I here? Also, I want to say, Peter is a robot too!'

'No! Have you heard 'When in Rome do as the Romans do'? He is only pretending to be a robot! Hmm...the reason why you are here is because you were elected to be with us! You know, your great cleverness and cuteness make you deserve the marriage with our prince!

'Oh, I see...thank you so much. But I don't want that! I miss my parents and my friends, and I miss my home, my Melody bed, my ringtones of 'Fur Elise'.....'

I urged the King to let me go back home, but he didn't allow that. He said, 'No. You must stay here. You don't have to go to school; we will engage a teacher for you. Also, you don't have to do anything you want on your own. You'll have a robot helping you with everything. You will attend our party with Peter. He will tell you all about 'Hapia'. Most importantly, Peter will be with you everyday!'

—Now—

I am 18 years old now. I live with Peter happily. We love each other. Yesterday, the King told me that Peter is the prince that he told me about 4 years ago. And I was really surprised.

'Marry me' said Peter.

'Y...e....s' I answered.



Our wedding ceremony will be held next Sunday in the palace. And I will be his wife! What a wonderful day!

But I am beginning to think of my parents. I haven't seen them for 4 years, what a long period! At first, I still remembered everything about my parents. However, with the passage of time, they faded out from my memory! I thought that was a dream! But now I have been here for 4 years. A subtle sentiment has been cultivated between Peter and me. That is love. I know, it has actually happened, and isn't a dream. Gradually, I have been seeing Peter, the King and Queen more, almost everyday. Now I can just vaguely remember my parents' faces. My mind has been stuffed with the funny

robots. Honestly, I have got used to dwelling with them. They are useful and help me a lot. They make my life more convenient so I can have many chances and much time to be with Peter. We talk a lot. We know each other well. Our life is enjoyable.

But where's my home? Who are my Dad and Mum? What do they look like? I was confused about that. I recalled that King Leo said, 'Welcome to my Utopia!' And so I went to see him. I asked, 'you said that it was YOUR Utopia, right?' Yes, of course,' he replied. 'But I don't think it is perfect! I miss my parents, but I don't know how they are getting on now! Since I haven't seen them for 4 years, I have forgotten my life before I came here! Why don't you let us live together? Why?' King Leo didn't reply; he was speechless. All of a sudden, he shouted, 'Are you nuts? Okay. You may go and leave us! You'll be happier! Go back to your home!'

When I am scared out of my wits, I close my eyes. When I opened my eyes this time, King Leo wasn't there. I'm out of the palace. I am standing on a strange street. The E.T.s have gone. Nobody on the street is a robot! They are humans, just like me. I don't know what to do. I think I should walk along this road. Yes, go along the street and I'll see the palace again. But my idea is wrong. I have walked for one hour but still can't see my destination. I am upset. I can't believe it.

At a very desperate moment when I want to go back to the palace, I see a man and a woman shouting nervously. They yell, 'Moon, come back! Where are you? We miss you so much! Moon!'

Moon? My name is Moon! They are calling my name! But I don't know who they are! While I am thinking, they recognize me and rush to me.

They cry. 'Moon, we have found you after 4 years! We missed you so much!'

Four years? I lived in palace for four years! And so, are they my parents? Yes, they are overjoyed when they see me! They must be my parents!

Having lived with only Peter, I don't know how to communicate with human beings. After all, all I've seen these four years is robots. Remaining silent, I don't know how to explain to them. Also, I miss Peter, and I am thinking about that day---the day I first met King Leo.....

A few minutes later, my Mum asked me, 'What are you thinking about?'
And I replied 'Welcome to my Utopia!'

A Terrible Classmate

3A Tse Mei Ting, Mandy

One day, when I was going to school, I saw a boy standing on the street. For a long time, he didn't move. I felt he was an odd person.

So I asked him, "Is everything OK?"

To my surprise, he was a handsome boy!

"I'm OK. Thank you!" spoke the boy slowly. As I found everything okay, I went on my way to school. Being late, I walked quickly.

After I had arrived at my classroom, my teacher announced that my class had a new classmate named Man. I was shocked to see that he was the odd boy I had come across early that morning. But the difference was that he spoke very fast. Suddenly, a lot of batteries dropped out from his school bag. All my classmates and I felt shocked. When all my classmates and I waited for the explanation of bringing so many batteries to school, he just said nothing. My teacher arranged him to sit next to me, which made me happy that I could sit with a cool and handsome boy! This was a good chance for me to know more about him!

"Today I saw you on the street," I said.

"I know. I saw you, too," he replied.

"Why did you bring so many batteries to schools?" I asked.

"I love them, actually. Why do you ask me this question?" he asked.

My face turned red. I began to wonder why I cared about him so much. Was this called 'love at first sight'? Actually, I didn't express my love to him!

We talked to each other every day and we became close friends. But something was strange about him. He didn't eat anything at lunchtime but did go to the toilet. No one knew the reasons. Also, more strangely, he didn't come to school on rainy days. What a strange guy!

One day, when it was raining, I saw him on the way to school walking at a slow pace. I quickly told him to hurry and pushed him to walk faster as we were almost late. Suddenly, I heard some odd sounds. I found that his hand was broken. And I discovered there were some wires, electrical circuits and computer chips in his hands. Suddenly, I knew why there were so many cells in his bag. I understood why he never went to school on rainy days. I ran away quickly. I heard him saying sorry to me.

After that day, I never saw him again. Nobody saw him again.

FILM REVIEW: JURASSIC PARK

3B Lee Sin Hang, Karen

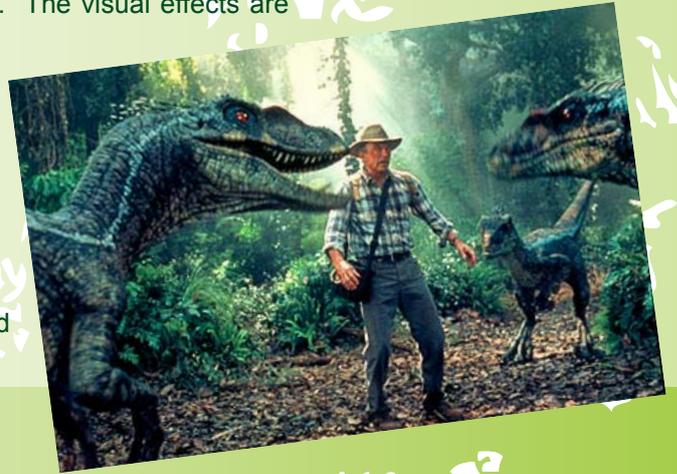
Here comes a famous film. It is an adventure which revolves around a lot of colossal and horrible dinosaurs. Obviously, you know which film it is. Right! It is Jurassic Park.

This is a movie about scientists and some precious dinosaurs. John Hammond, the main character in this movie, has developed a dinosaur park on a very remote island. However, one of the staff members in that park wants to steal some dinosaur's embryos. Therefore, the security system collapses and all of the dinosaurs are free again. They damage the surroundings and visitors to the park are at risk.

Jurassic Park is filled with excitement. Some of the most breathtaking scenes in this movie are about Sattler's grandchildren. Tim and Lex meet a lot of dinosaurs after the security system is broken down. They need to escape from the dinosaurs and protect themselves. You can't ask for a better film than Jurassic Park. Most importantly, the plot in this film is unpredictable. You cannot guess what will happen next easily. Visually, it is the most amazing adventure. The visual effects are wonderful and they look very real.

It brings a message to the audience: Although sometimes we will face some difficulties, we need to believe in ourselves and overcome them. Just like the two children, they meet the dinosaurs on the island but they are brave and trust themselves. They never give up so they can survive at last.

Just see the film, and be open to its message, and I am sure that you will enjoy this film very much!



Share your Love with Others

3C Yu Tak Hung

*Share your love with others,
You will find that you become a sower
To spread the seeds of love with magic power.
Then the world must become warmer
And everyone is a winner.*



AN ADVENTURE IN SPACE

3D Wong Ching Wun, Christy

On 3rd of March, 3333, Lunchipoo (a planet near Mars where there are some greenish creatures called 'aliens' with gigantic black eyes) declared a war with us, mankind.

My name is Bella Brown, a cosmographer. Considering I am a professional about Space, the President decided to send me to Lunchipoo to spy on those aliens. They put me into a machine and I walked out as an alien in Lunchipoo (Thank god for this high-tech product!)

"There you are, Miss Brown. Nervous?" The President with bunch of governors standing behind him asked me. "Indeed, I am." I answered honestly. Then, Dr. Smith came towards and introduced me to his newest invention, Starbrella.

'Starbrella' is a very simple machine looking like an umbrella with a chain of stars on the top. Once you are holding it, it can take you to the place you want to go (both Earth and Space) without missing a beat. I took a step forward and hold the shiny surface of Starbrella. "To Lunchipoo, please." I said.

In a flash, I was star-trekking with the Starbrella as my umbrella. I landed on an unknown street in Lunchipoo.

Before going to the Castle, I decided to have a look there first. So I walked (Technically flew, thanks to the weightlessness!) to the Castle where the Queen of Lunchipoo lived. Everything there surprised me very much! Actually, on second thoughts, I thought to say those things were surprising must be an understatement! The buildings were having the size of your childhood toy, doll's house. Finally, it's the Castle. The weird thing was, this Castle's size was twice as large as other buildings on this planet. It was spectacular!

"What are you doing here?" a soldier asked me. "I am here to look for a job." I answered, without turning an eyelash. "Then, go to Mrs. Shaw, Miss." He answered me politely.

Mrs. Shaw, a chubby middle-aged alien (She reminded me of my own mother) with unusual small eyes (for alien), smiled at me and said "We have a job for you, as an assistant to the Queen. You know, our country will have a war with the Earth soon and Her Majesty needs an efficient helper, are you interested in it?" Score! "Yes, of course! It would be an honor to work for Her Majesty." I answered, beaming.





“So I have a few words for you. The Queen is mysterious. She rarely shows her face. Hence, I suggest you don’t look at her face. Her Majesty is very sensitive, mind you.” She said under her breath. ‘So, the Queen must be very ugly if she doesn’t want to show her face.’ I thought wicked.

“Your Majesty, may I come in? A new assistant is here,” Mrs. Shaw knocked the heavy door and said. “Yes. Come in.” A scary voice answered back. I followed Mrs. Shaw to an extravaganza room. There was a giant mirror over the headboard of the enormous four-poster bed and red-and-gold curtains in the windows.

“You may leave now, Mrs. Shaw.” The Queen ordered. “Yes, Your Majesty.” Mrs. Shaw walked away quickly as if the Queen was a monster.

The Queen walked out and looked at me as though I was a weirdo. She studied me for about ten minutes, which made me feel extremely nervous and I sweated all over my body. “Yes, Your Majesty? How can I help?” I broke the awkward silence.

“Do you have anything you want to tell me?” She asked me with a sinister smile. “Uh, should I? Your Majesty.” I answered. “Are you a human?” She asked me softly.

‘Oh my God! How did she know that?’ I thought nervously. “No. Your Majesty.” I answered. “Don’t lie to me, you little shameless spy! I can sense your human identity and read your mind! That useless old man (the President) sent you here, didn’t he?” She walked towards me and grabbed my neck softly. “Wonder why I got it so easily? Look at yourself in the mirror now!”

Confused, I walked in front the mirror and got the shock of my life. I appeared as a human then! The machine didn’t function! She came to me and put her freezing hand on my back and said “Now, answer my question!”

Being honest, I answered “Yes”. Then, she laser beamed me with her cosmic eyes.

TRUE LOVE



This story happens in 2050. TTT Secondary School holds a 'Most Pretty Girl Beauty Contest'. Mandy's name is shown on the school's notice board. Nobody would be surprised if Mandy becomes the champion, as she has won many beauty contests over the last three years. Aside from her breathtaking beauty, Mandy is an outstanding student who is excellent in both studies and conduct at school. Teachers like this girl very much. Therefore she is popular in TTT Secondary School.

On the other hand, in Mandy's class, Peter is an ugly boy whose classmates sarcastically ridicule him 'Pimple Idiot'. Due to his ugliness, Peter unfortunately has become the victim of campus bullying. However his hard-working image and nice character impress all teachers very much.

One day after school, Peter is going back home. About 4 to 5 o'clock, Peter's classmates stand in front of the school door.

'Do you want to leave school and go back home? If you do, you have to help us do all the homework!' they claim and grin unfriendly.

3E Chan Yuk Sing

'But doing your homework is your duty. You should do it by yourself?' whimpered Peter.

'Do you mean you're reluctant to help us? Or are you just hard-working for the teachers? Pimple Idiot!' the classmate howled.

They didn't let Peter off the hook. Mandy saw what was happening. By the way, Mandy had adored Peter for a long time because of his good personalities. 'Why are you acting like ruffians? Get out of here.' Mandy pointed at them with a loud voice. Thanks to Mandy's popularity, the classmates dare not offend Mandy. One of the ruffians threw a piece of rock at Mandy and ran away. At that moment, Peter protects Mandy with his right hand. Mandy noticed that there were a lot of wires, electrical circuits and computer chips inside Peter's hands.

'What has happened? What's wrong with your hand?' asked Mandy, astonished.

'I'm so sorry about that. Honestly, I come from a place called Hong Kong in the year 2009. And I am a robot,' explained Peter.

'I don't mind where you come from because I just know that I have fallen in love with you. I am willing to follow you wherever you go,' said Mandy.

This story tells us if we love unconditionally and unreservedly, we have found our true love.

Earthquake

4A Chan Lok Tsun, Rocky

The value of life has occupied a higher position in my mind as I've grown up. A few years ago, when I heard about the earthquake in Japan or even the big tsunami in South-east Asia, I thought it was just cliché news and it was not related to me. It is true for most teenagers because we have never stood on the boundary between life and death. Death seems to be far away from us. But as I grow up, I've found that death is actually always around us.

Two years ago, my friend and my grandmother died. It was the first time that I faced death. Feeling desperate and depressed, I cried my eyes out. Honestly, I finally came to realize how life is cruel!

I shivered when I heard about the earthquakes in Wenchuan and Qinghai in 2009 and 2010 respectively. It is a pity to know one person has died due to a natural catastrophe, let alone thousands. We are Chinese and we should be united. Look at the miserable children, some of them are forced to live without parents, becoming orphans. Look at the parents, they tried their best to protect their children, but some lost their lovely children. Look at the families, some members were missing and they were like crazy people searching and shouting their names. Can anyone ease their pain? No! The only thing we can do is to give them financial support. Yet their future seems gloomy.

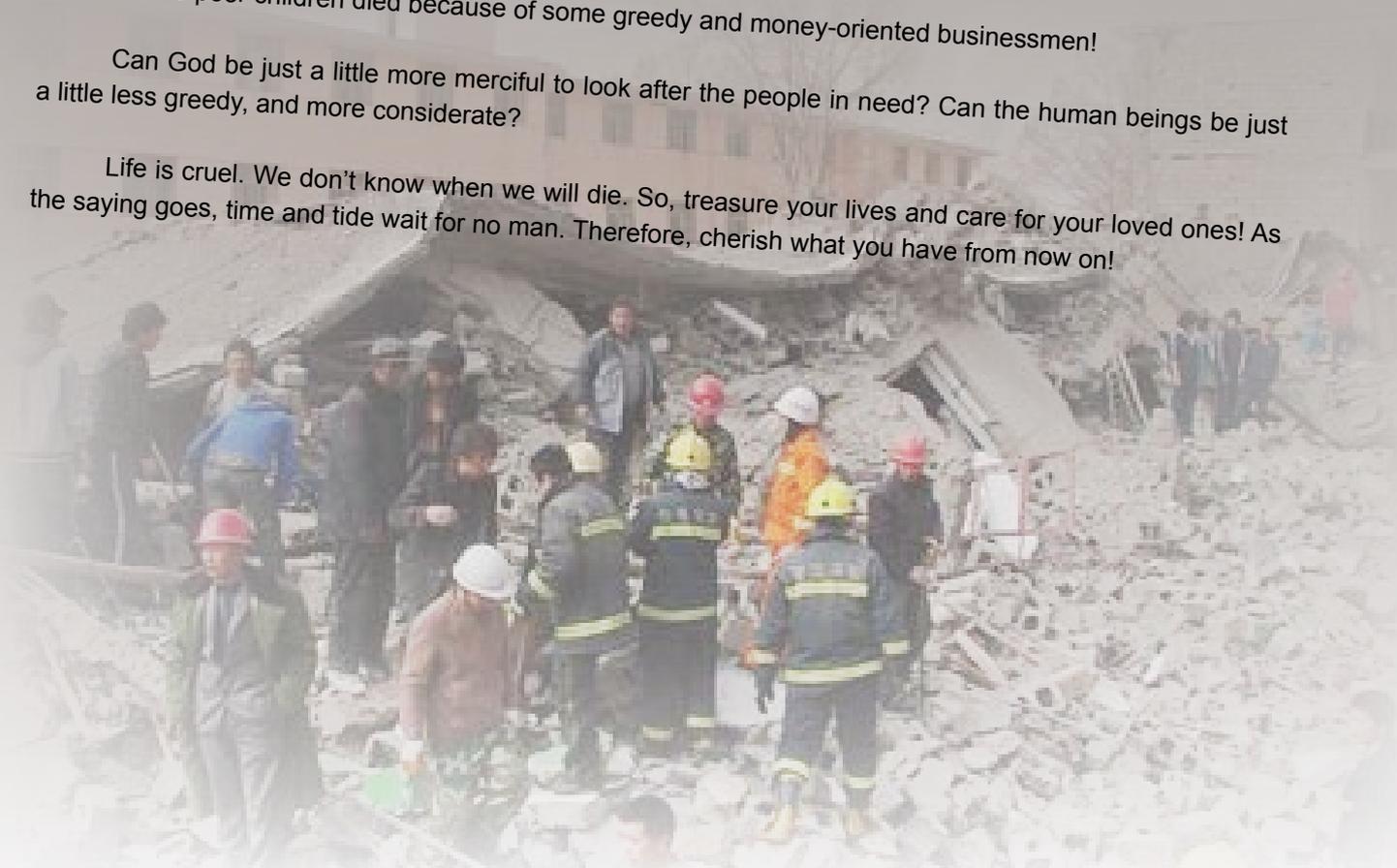
What is actually the main reason for so many deaths? Why are so many lives been lost? These poor children died because of the collapsed rubble and ruins from their schools.

These poor children died because of the poor building structure of their schools!

These poor children died because of some greedy and money-oriented businessmen!

Can God be just a little more merciful to look after the people in need? Can the human beings be just a little less greedy, and more considerate?

Life is cruel. We don't know when we will die. So, treasure your lives and care for your loved ones! As the saying goes, time and tide wait for no man. Therefore, cherish what you have from now on!





Film Review: Up

(This article has been published in the English Street)

4B Yeung Lok Yee, Tiffany

Pete Docter, the director of 'Wall-E' and 'Ratatouille', has once again produced a blockbuster--'Up', an animation and comedy adventure, in 2009. 'Up' has won two awards; one is the Teen Choice Awards-Choice Summer Movie: Comedy and the second is a Venice Film Festival award. The film is rated I as the main targets are children. It is a 3-dimensional film so it was only shown in cinemas with required equipments.

It's a comedy adventure about a 78-year-old balloon salesman Carl Fredrickson and an 8-year-old Wilderness Explorer called Russell. At the beginning of the film, Carl is forced to live in a retirement home. Living in that house, Carl remembers the promise between him and his dead wife, Ellie. Therefore, before the staff takes Carl out, he ties thousands of balloons to his house so that the house can fly to the wilds of South America. On the way, the Wilderness Explorer, Russell, enters the field of the house and flies together. They encounter a lot of weird stuff such as talking dogs, an evil villain called Muntz and a rare bird named Kevin.

Personally, I believe 'Up' is really worth watching. Before watching the film, I thought Pixar couldn't catch up with 'Wall-E' in terms of quality. But I changed my mind after I had watched it. 'Up' is more attractive and impressive than other films directed by Pete Docter. The first 5 minutes of the film shows the life of Carl, who gets married to his adventure-loving girlfriend, their dream and her death. This makes the beginning of the film so touching that it made me shed tears. It was the first time I cried in the cinema.

Although the animation isn't very rich, the content makes 'Up' native and relaxing. Moreover, it involves good techniques so the storyline is fluent enough to take me from laughter to tears in just a few minutes. Watching this film is like having a fantastic journey. I could see the audience (both kids and adults) glued to the screen.

Last but not least, 'Up' is meaningful. I can know more about myself after watching 'Up'. I learn that we shouldn't only dream the dream but also walk out of the dream. Otherwise, it becomes a pity in the life.

I am happy to say that 'Up' is a wonderful film and it's greater than what I expected. Therefore, I highly recommend 'Up' to everyone.

Drug Test—really good?

4C Kwan Chui Yee

Recently, more cases of drug abuse among teenagers have been noticed. The government has suggested the implementation of the School Drug Testing Scheme, which has aroused much debate. While some people say the scheme is perfect to deter teenagers from using drugs, others think differently due to considerations concerning freedom. What do you think actually?

I completely disagree with this scheme.

Firstly, everyone has their own freedom and privacy. Even though the School Drug Testing Scheme is the best way for the government to chase down those who are using drugs in schools, many students fear it will infringe their privacy. True, applauded by parents and schools, the scheme, on the other hand, is believed to assure most parents that their children are not drug abusers. Nevertheless, the purpose of drug testing is to confirm there are no drug users in schools. The government wants to find the drug users and assist them to abstain from drug taking. However, is implementing such scheme the best choice? Hong Kong government has never carried out any similar scheme. Put another way, the scheme is new to everyone. Is it really suitable to implement such a scheme without evaluating the effectiveness soundly in the society beforehand, given that the scheme must infringe the students' rights? I doubt it. Everyone has their own choices; the government cannot force students to participate in drug testing. I hope that the government will show understanding for students that refuse to participate in drug testing.

Secondly, errors may exist when the government is carrying out the drug test. Not every test is 100% correct; students may be misjudged as drug users if there are any mistakes in the test. Up to now, there have been countless errors in Hong Kong public hospitals. That's why many people choose private hospitals rather than public hospitals for more reliable medical care. So, what if the government again makes mistakes here?

Last but not least, its effectiveness must be doubted. Obviously, students who do not take part in drug use will agree to participate in School Drug Testing Scheme. But, how about students who are drug users? Will they agree to participate in it? Is there any point carrying out the scheme if they do not participate in it? Does the government have a plan B to find the drug users who do not participate in the scheme?

No matter how much opposition from society, the School Drug Testing Scheme is going to be implemented in all schools in Hong Kong. However, there are some questions we have to ask. Is this the best way? How many people will agree to participate in it? If I were the students' parents, I would not let my children participate in the School Drug Testing Scheme. Therefore, I completely disagree with this initiative.

Sports as Culture and a Way of Life

4E Ip Fung Yi

Some people say that sports are competitions for who have talents and sports are unrelated to them. However, this idea has no justification in my mind. Actually, I think sports link to our life. Sports are not distant affairs, but culture and a way of life.

Culture sometimes seems distant to some people. In fact, it is not. According to Wikipedia, culture is 'an integrated pattern of human knowledge, belief, and behavior that depends upon the capacity for symbolic thought and social learning.' The sources of culture are human activities. We are the ones who create culture. And sports, of course, are a kind of culture.

Admittedly, Sports witness the transitions of eras. The development of sports started in ancient times. Their emergence can be traced back to thousands of years ago. People, no matter whether they were common folk or royalty, devised sports from their life. Sports were entertainment in their life. As time passed by, sports did not sink to oblivion, but were altered and bettered to cater for the changes of habits and attitude of people towards sports. Take football as an example. It originated in England as an informal activity and then was codified in the 19th Century. In the 20th Century it became an event in the Olympic Games. Football is nowadays the most popular sport in the world, but only a minority of people knows it has been lasted for about 3000 years. Other sports are similar cases. Simply put, sports are a kind of culture which reflects the development of society, particularly the interaction between people from different races.

Besides, sports can show the unique features of any nation. Each nation has its unique sport. The inhabitants devised sports for different reasons. They are features of the local. For instance, sumo, according to an online source, 'A competitive contact sport where a wrestler attempts to force another wrestler out of a circular ring or to touch the ground with anything other than the soles of the feet', originated in Japan. It is a typical sport in Japan and Japan is the only country where it is practiced professionally.





Furthermore, even when a sport spreads to other places and decline in the original location, its history of birth can never be changed. Once they are devised in a place, in essence, sports belong to the place forever. As mentioned above, football, which originated in England, is a good example. Although it has spread to foreign countries, England's reputation as the 'home of football' is still intact. Every country has its unique and distinctive sports, and every country has its own culture of sports.

Aside from the above, sports are a way of life. More specifically, sports closely link and relate to our life. Sports help people to construct an active, lively and healthy life style. That is, sports should be included in our daily life.

To help people relax, sports are a kind of entertainment. Many people view sports as competitions. Nevertheless, sports are developed by people and from daily life. They always first emerged for the purpose to entertain people. A typical example is basketball. According to Wikipedia, basketball 'first emerged in 1891, when Dr. James Naismith, a Canadian-born physical education professor and instructor, sought a vigorous indoor game to keep his students occupied and at proper levels of fitness during the long winters'. Basketball won acceptance from people then. It brings entertainment and happy times to people. Another example is a distinctive sport called "Kabaddi". Kabaddi originated in India and was probably invented to ward off group attacks by individuals, and vice versa. The game is very popular in the southern part of Asia. From the above cases, it can be proved that sports provide people with entertainment. The major reason that sports emerge is to entertain people, but not only to compete. People enjoy and put themselves in different kind of sports. Aleksandr Sergeyevich Pushkin, a Russian author of the Romantic era, had ever said "The fun of sports lasts forever." It's true, isn't it?

Sports also have benefits for both body and mind. "Taking exercises benefits our health" is well-known. Still, people ignore it. They always think that doing exercises is time-consuming. Living in a fast-paced society where people must work hard to earn a living, people have no choice but to maintain a good physical condition. That is to say, we have to play more sports. Doing exercise can help improve our health and prevent us from suffering from long-term illnesses. What's more, doing exercise can relax our nerves. Life of urban residents is nervous and bustling. We can do exercises such as playing badminton to ease up ourselves and banish great pressure. Meanwhile, as some kinds of sports have to be played in teams, we can also develop team spirit and communication skills by cooperating with others.

In conclusion, sports link closely to us. They witness the changes of history; they are part of the unique culture of countries; and they are a way of life. Sports appeared and flourished in the past. Once sports seemed remote to people due to the transitions of environment, but now they are becoming general again. Once people thought that sports were declining, but the evidence negates this. Sports are great. Sports are permanent.

Let's Say "GOODBYE" to Plastic Bags

4D Young Hoi Man, Meko

Last year, the Legislative Council passed a law to charge a 50 HK cents levy on plastic bags. However, there is a huge controversy over the plan. To me, I strongly support the government's idea to introduce the plastic bag levy and I think it is worth implementing.

First of all, we can protect our environment through the levy. As we all know, most types of plastics are non-biodegradable. Put another way, if we dispose of the plastic bags in landfills, they continue to exist for millions of years. Worse still, incineration of plastics releases toxic gases. If we continue to overuse plastic bags, this will increase the pressure on our landfills and lead to serious environmental problems. The levy is a good discouragement to make people use fewer plastic bags.

What is more, the practice is a way of raising the public awareness to protect our earth. Since the levy has been put into practice and people have to bring their own bags while shopping, they will notice that they are responsible for protecting our earth. Besides, every corner in this globalized world is faced with the problem of global warming—Hong Kong is no exception. If we do not try to protect our earth and act immediately, the problem will be worsened and will never be solved.

Some people say that the levy is unfair to low-income groups. However, I honestly disagree with this argument. My point is that if they use their own bags instead of plastic bags, they do not need to pay the levy. In other words, if they find that they cannot bear the levy, they will start to bring their own bags. I believe it is not hard to find some green groups distributing free plastics bags on the streets. Under such circumstance, the number of plastic bags used can be reduced.

To conclude, I completely agree with the introduction of the plastic bag levy and I am sure that the levy will be effective to reduce the number of plastic bags used. It is necessary to tell the public that it is time to save our earth and we have no right to destroy it.

A Big Mistake

5A Ngo Keng Fai, William

I've been waiting a long time for this day to come. In fact, I've been longing for it badly. The annual Trailwalker had always been the tradition of my school, and this year, I was lucky enough to take part in it with my friend, Pat. I must admit it was an unforgettable experience.

It was a beautiful autumn day with a blue sky, clearer than the clearest I'd ever seen. All the teams lined up behind the starting line, waiting for the starting signal. It seemed that Pat was very excited as well, jumping and peeping around like a little child. 'What a lovely day for little walk, and look at me, don't you think my new coat and jolly pair of shoes are beautiful? I just love them!' exclaimed Pat.

They were pretty indeed, and the stylish new clothes showed they surely were pretty expensive. Pat, among all my friends, is the one who cares about her clothes and fashion the most. Her house is full of fancy clothes; and a wide array of shoes always waits for her to choose.

'Beeeeeep!' the walk started, people rushed in front of each other. Thinking about all the kilometres ahead, we tried to walk at a constant speed. And there we walked, for hours and hours, from one mountain to another. Pat was very careful with her clothes, especially her shoes, being afraid of getting dirt on them. I will never forget the experience at the finishing line...

As we were plodding towards the finishing line, suddenly, I heard a deafening 'CRACK! BOOM!' sound behind me. I turned my head around in terror, only to see Pat lying on the ground yelling with pain.

Dropping from her big, brown eyes were tears of pain and agony. Her leg was badly injured, with blood gushing out. 'I can't carry you, stay there while I fetch help!' I said.

'No, I can carry on! Look! I don't want to spoil the efforts we made. We've started together, and we will finish in a pair. Now, come and give me a lift, will you?' asked Pat.

'But...you're stuck in the hole and ...oh no! Your new coat! It's hung on the bush!' I explained.

'Just...give me a lift! I don't...Well, I do care about my shoes and my coat, and I'm really upset about this, but...you can't just give up here, right?' Pat comforted me.

I lifted her up. I helped her, trying hard to get to the finishing line. She limped with pain, and we moved slowly, step by step. Twenty, nineteen, eighteen...I counted the steps. Strangely, every step took was a harder one. It seemed that Pat was getting weaker and weaker. 'Are you okay? Pat!' I asked. 'Yes...I guess...' Pat replied.

Four, three, two...Almost there... 'Blam,' I experienced an extremely heavy pull downwards. Pat fell down, with tears flooding out. The rescue team arrived, and she was carried up. 'I'm sorry...I'm really, really sorry...' she cried weakly. I could hear her screaming at the top of her voice – in her heart.

'You're the winner, Pat. You're the winner. You won it all.' I exclaimed.

We won, didn't we?

Brilliant Civilization: Chinese Culture

5B Chong Chin Kwan



Chinese culture is long-standing and well-established. Also, Chinese culture represents the history and life of the Chinese people. I think people should be proud of their background and traditions.

One example is Chinese festivals; they are remarkable, and perhaps the most remarkable is Lunar New Year. Lunar New Year means a new lease of life. To welcome this festival, the Chinese people have annual housecleaning. Symbolic flowers and pictures are used to decorate the house. In addition, they either have a family reunion or visit relatives and friends. People wear new clothes and children get red lai-see from adults. All Chinese people at New Year express good wishes and fortune to each other.

Chinese culture encourages devotion to family and especially parents. In ancient China, there were 24 filial piety stories which are popular and are handed down. One of the most impressive stories is about Huang Xiang. He was just nine, yet he devoted himself to his father very much. When it was hot, he fanned the bed and made it cool. When it was cold, he lay on the bed and made it warm in order to make his father to feel comfortable when sleeping on the bed. How wonderful his attitude is!

In addition, Chinese culture attaches great importance to ancestors. Chinese people show respect to their ancestors through worshipping them so as to cherish the memory of the deceased, ensuring the ancestors' continued well-being and sometimes asking for special favors or assistance. People place the deceased's favourite food and wine in front of the altar to show their respect. Furthermore, they burn 'spirits money', clothes and lighting incense joss sticks, hoping that their relatives in heaven can receive what they've burnt.

Chinese culture is rich and varied and we should always appreciate it.



NO PSEUDO MODELS

5C Kar Yuen Lam, Echo

I couldn't help shouting 'No' when I saw the issue about pseudo-models doing everything at all costs to get support from the public. 'No'. This was not driven by prejudice but based on the effect of the 'craze' on the public as far as I could see. Of course there are both positive and negative sides of pseudo models, but from my point of view, the negative influences brought by the pseudo models to the society outweigh the positive ones. In view of this, I am writing this letter to voice my opinions.

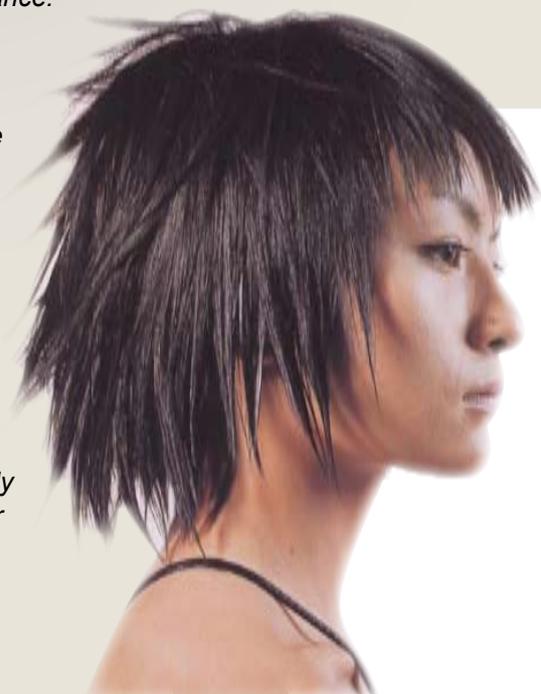
To begin with, I want to give a definition of 'doing everything at all costs'. Obviously, 'everything' includes both positive and negative actions such as supporting charities and robbery. What about 'all costs'? If you do something at all cost, you are willing to give up all other important things in order to achieve your target since nothing else is more important than it. Take studying as an example. Many parents think there is nothing wrong if their children study for good results at all costs. No, there's no problem when it comes to studying hard at all costs for a better future. But what if children work too hard and neglect their health? As a result, we can conclude that whether it is good to do something at all costs depends on how important it is.

With the basic concept of 'everything' and 'all cost', let's go back to see whether what the teen models do is right or not.

Some die-hard fans of young models may say pseudo-models are only selling photo albums and they have put great effort into their work. There is nothing wrong with them and they have the freedom to choose what to do. Superficially, such kinds of words sounds reasonable. However, when you think more deeply, you will find the facts are extremely different from this. Take photo books as an example. Consumers buy the books only because the teen models' took the photos in lingerie and with sexy poses. The fact is that they were making use of their physical appearance to make money. I don't want to argue whether this kind of photos is racy or not with those who regard sexy and nude bodies as a kind of 'arts'. For this, some supporters may be angry and shout 'so, what's the difference among actresses, professional models and lang mo? They all earn a living with their beautiful faces. To respond, I would say the former two occupations require high skills in acting and cat-walking, and they do a lot of practice for a good performance in their work, but pseudo-models don't. Therefore, this may pass to people, especially the youth, a misconception that beauty is more important than knowledge when it comes to earning money. Can you imagine that if this kind of ideas was spread to everyone, what would be the result? Maybe none of the students would be interested in studying anymore. Maybe all workers would only think of how to have a charming appearance. Maybe the society would turn into one that only focuses on one's appearance. This couldn't be positive for any society's future.

There is another problem that we should think seriously. It is the impact of pseudo models on the society. Of course, it is true that one has the freedom to choose what to do. Nevertheless, does the society only consist of teen models and their supporters? No! So, what's the influence to other people of their so-called 'hard work'? It may arouse men's sexual imagination and mislead people that racy photos or soft porn are acceptable. The problem is that what they have done is lawfully but not morally correct, in my opinion.

To conclude, I absolutely oppose the pseudo-models' doing everything at all costs as it may change people's value of life and lead to people's misunderstanding of the moral standard of society. I sincerely hope such lang mo will not appear in the next book fair, at least never appear in front of children.



Viewing Chinese Culture through the 2008 Olympics

5D So Mei Ki

Historically, the city of Beijing can be traced back 3000 years. Since the Ming Dynasty, Beijing has always been the cultural, military and economic hub of China. The 2008 Beijing Olympics, was a golden chance for China to refresh her impression as well as to exhibit its culture to all corners of the globe.

The stunning opening ceremony articulated our special hopes. Also, it sent cordial welcome to all participants. Watching a variety of shows in the opening ceremony, we got to know some Chinese history before the beginning of the races.

At the beginning of the ceremony, hundreds of male performers suited in Han-era Dynasty clothing were carrying bamboo slips and said "Isn't it great to have friends coming from afar?" and "All men are brothers within the four seas." By the way, these two Chinese idioms were said by wise philosophers. Then, a dancer dressed in Tang-era clothing danced on a huge map of the Silk Road, showing the unique trading history of the orient. Besides, the performance of Kunqu Opera, which is known as one of the oldest Chinese Opera, was gripping as it was with the music of Guzheng. In that performance, artists used a Chinese brush and painted on a scroll, which showed the extraordinary artistic culture of China.

In addition, during the Beijing Olympic, citizens were well-prepared to entertain people from across the world.

To prepare for the Olympics, countless Chinese citizens learnt English and were willing to become volunteers. This effort from the people made a good impression with foreign tourists. Communicating with foreigners, local people did not shirk the responsibility of promoting Chinese culture and showing respect to foreigners.

After the Olympics, I believe people around the world have received happiness from China. After the success of cultural promotion, China has become a must-see place for everybody. In the future, I hope that when tourists come to China, they do not only fancy visiting grand temples and popular spots, but will also want to explore the fascinating characteristics of this great country.

Preserving Dai Pai Dongs and Street Food

(This article has been published in the English Street and Young Post)

5E Tsui Lai Yan, Annie



Have you ever had a meal in a dai pai dong? For me, I love having meals there very much. Protecting cultural heritage in the territory has sparked debate and become the talk of Hong Kong. Do you think the government should preserve dai pai dongs and other street food? My view point is obviously yes!

Why? It is because the food in dai pai dongs and other types of street food are economically-friendly and delicious, let alone the fact that they are special and contain local flavours. I think there is no doubt that the food in dai pai dongs and other street food are cheap. To explain, you can feel completely full by paying about \$20 only! Perhaps some people are not into dai pai dongs and street food, however, no one can deny that their business is thriving in Hong Kong. They are really famous! I think one of the reasons is that the food is delicious. Also, the history of dai pai dongs and other streets food is really long.' I think when my grandmother was a child; there were dai pai dongs and other street food already.

They have really stayed with Hong Kong people for a long time. As mentioned, not only is the food delicious, but it is also a part of our local heritage. I think we can even say that dai pai dongs and other streets food are the representatives of Hong Kong. It is not difficult for you to find that many movies, comics and books are about them. Should there be a trend on protecting cultural heritage, why don't we protect dai pai dongs and street food, which is regarded as cultural heritages?

Maybe you would say the food and the environment of dai pai dongs are dirty. However, frankly speaking, how many people can afford the high price of hotels and restaurants? Although the food and the environment of dai pai dongs are dirty, many people still choose to have meals there, why? It is because most of the people in HK are from the low-income group. The street food and the food in dai pai dongs are what they can afford. Meanwhile, who can definitely assure that the food in high-class hotel and restaurants is absolutely clean? Many people feel sick after having meals, especially after having buffets in hotels and restaurants. So, how can dirtiness of dai pai dongs and street food be a reason for people to forego them?

In conclusion, I think the government should preserve dai pai dongs and other street food because not only are they delicious and economical, but also they are representative enough to show the features of Hong Kong, Asia's world city.

Change

6A Yiu Ching Yi, Cherry



Why do we need to change? I am not going to tell you the answer now. Instead, I want to tell you a story first. Once upon a time, there was a little boy. He was underprivileged, weak and cowardly. So he was always bullied by his neighbors and other children. Knowing that only changes can lift him out of his miserable life, he wanted to be strong and wealthy. Therefore, he was determined to make a sea change of himself. With this determination, he tried hard and eventually changed a lot. He became stronger and richer. Do you know what the name of this boy is? I'll give you a hint, that boy is indeed a country. Actually, the answer is China.

Do you know why I told you the story of China? Actually, I want to tell you that change is an opportunity to develop and achieve our target. If China hadn't made any changes, it wouldn't have any chances to develop so well nowadays. Also, there would be much more impoverished and illiterate farmers in China. Luckily, the People's Republic of China announced an earth-shaking "open door" policy in 1978. This change gave foreign countries a chance to trade with china. So since early 1980s, china has been probably the fastest growing economic system in the world and the living standard of citizen was improved. Also, it got sufficient money to spend on military development and organize international events such as Olympic. After making these changes, China is getting better and better now.

As a Chinese, I keep asking myself 'have I changed like China has always been? Fortunately, the answer is positive. I was so lazy in junior forms but I worked very hard in form 4 and 5 because I knew that if I had been slothful before the public exams in form 5, I would have got bad results. See, the hope for further studies made me decide to make a change of the attitude towards studying. No one promised me that my dream must come true as long as I worked hard. But I was sure that where there's a will, there's a way. At last, I scored enough marks to continue my studies after making a change to my attitudes.

When I finish the A-level examination 2 years later, I will have a big change in my life. I will either enter university or get a job. If I can continue my studies, I'm sure that my life in university will be totally different from that in secondary school. University will be a whole new world for me. I need to be responsible and mostly rely on myself. Also I need to adapt to other aspects of campus life, such as making new friends. I'm sure that those changes will be opportunities to help me develop interpersonal skills and a sense of responsibility in order to be an all-round student.

No one was born to be successful. We all need different kinds of changes; it may be your attitudes, characters, behaviors or so forth. Making a change is like gambling. You may win or lose. But one thing I'm sure is that remaining unchanged will not help us to realize our dreams. With crisis come opportunities. That's why I believe that change is an opportunity to achieve goals and develop our potentials.

*If a spark can trigger a fire
Warm those things around it
Then love could trigger your passion
Making you devote yourself unconditionally and unyielding to people mean to you*

*If an iceberg can be melted by
Warm it with your bare hands
Then a student's indifference to you could be shattered by
Showing your intensely burning and accommodating heart to him or her*

*If a mean sentence can crush you into frustration
Shatter your persistent faith
Then an encouraging word would bring you blessings and strength
Leading you out of the dark tunnel*

*If your mind is clouded by the inner battles in your heart
Being so confused to your invisible future
Then a strong wind would comfort you
Blowing away all the mist that blocks your way*

*If your eyes are welled with excessive tears
No longer bearing the pain of being salted
Then numbers of empty wells would replace your pouches
Storing all your tears*

*If the weight on your shoulders is beyond the maximum you can carry
Putting insufferable burdens on you
Then your donkeys would bend down their knees
Asking you to sit on their back*

*It only takes a spark to get a fire going
And soon all those around can warm up glowing
It only needs you to get your love dazzling
And soon all the people around can experience the warmth of your giving*

*If you were the soap of love
Please do dissolve yourself more in the pool
If you were the one bathing in a pool of love
Please be grateful to be one surrounded by love*

World Peace and International Understanding in 21st Century

7S Ho Ka Ho

Every time when we look back in the history of humanity, we discover that bloody conflicts and wars are adverse to the development of our civilization. Therefore, with the arrival of the new era, innumerable people around the world wish the world to be peaceful. To realize this dream, no doubt, international understanding is required.

Indeed, no one can deny that world peace is the key to boosting people's quality of life and a catalyst to accelerate the advancement of civilization.

To explain, with world peace, people can get along with others from different nations harmoniously. There is no hatred among nations, but love. Without world peace, conflicts and wars may destabilize the world, pushing a lot of people into apprehension. Just like the international situation during the Cold War, the tension between two superpowers made people fear the outbreak of a nuclear war. As it is generally accepted that harmony, love and stability are vital measures of quality of life, world peace is crucial to boost people's quality of life.

Also, world peace can promote the development of civilization. With peace, trust among nations can be enhanced, resulting in tighter international cooperation in technological advancement. Without world peace, countries may need to waste time and resources to cope with conflicts diplomatically or even through wars. What's more, world peace can also encourage people to travel to every corner of the Earth, optimizing every culture through cultural exchange. Undoubtedly, all these are conducive to mankind civilization development.

However, the reality is that the world is not peaceful enough. To ensure world peace, international understanding is the key. And of course, young people should have no excuse to shirk the responsibility to promote international understanding.

In the first place, young people should learn more about different cultures proactively through reading books or browsing relevant information on the internet. Without any question, we must have enough knowledge before understanding others. Otherwise, it is meaningless for us to do anything even if we talk to foreign people – conflicts may still brew due to our lack of knowledge. For example, if young people do not know enough about Islam, they may be under illusion that Islam is an evil religion, being reluctant to have communication with those believers. However, once they learn that Islam is a good religion advocating equality and harmony and the threat of jihad is merely the avocation of extreme fundamentalists, young people may understand the Muslim people more. Needless to explain, most misunderstandings come from ignorance, learning more about different cultures is the first step for young people to promote international understanding.

In the wake of procuring enough knowledge, young people can make friends with people around the world to boost international understanding through communication. As

we all know, lack of understanding can often be attributed to insufficient communication. When young people talk to foreigners, they can experience the international communication, share features of their own culture with others and deepen their knowledge about other nations. This inevitably promotes understanding. Making good use of modern technology, young people can achieve this kind of communication through the forums on the internet. What's more, teenagers can join some cultural exchange programmes organized by universities or other organizations to make friends with foreigners in person. It is believed that this kind of communication must come to fruition when it comes to promoting international understanding.

In addition, young people have the obligation to share their discovery with their friends, parents, and teachers and so on. Under no circumstance can international understanding be achieved if only a minority of people understand other cultures. To make this understanding become a thing of the majority, teenagers should share their thoughts with the people they know via daily conversation of internet. As the saying goes, 'many a little makes a mickle'. As long as the young people can exert themselves to sharing their thoughts, other people may understand other nations very soon. In this way, international understanding can be promoted.

We have a dream—making the world peaceful, which can boost quality of life and promote civilization development. However, we do not have magic to realize this dream. So, only by concerted efforts of all human beings, especially the adolescents, can we construct the Utopia for ourselves to live in.



LESS CRITICISM MORE SUPPORT

LESS CRITICISM MORE SUPPORT

7A Chan Suet Yin

Recently, there has been much debate over the Generation Y – the younger. Sadly, much of this is criticism. However, are all these comments true? How can we fairly comprehend this generation?

Most critics describe members of Generation Y as apathetic. They are symbolized as being lazy as they are they are thought to have a self-indulgent lifestyle. They live life they want and do whatever they want to do. Moreover, they are indifferent to the community. Also, it is said that they seldom, if ever, care about what is happening in Hong Kong. In other words, even if they notice something unfair in society, they only see it as an ordinary story.

Furthermore, they are obsessed with the internet and lock themselves in the computers. They play video games from dawn to night and neglect everything important. Worse still, because they only spend time with themselves, they lack interpersonal skills. All these make generation Y cowardly – which most adults think the generation Y is.

However, when we examine these seemingly valid arguments closer, we will find these statements poorly-founded.

Youngsters nowadays are actually enthusiastic about politics. They go on rallies to express their opinions and put forward their ideas to the government. Their radical opposition to the building up of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Railway is the best example. The post-80s held demonstrations to express their opposition and they were even more active than most adults in Hong Kong. The performance of youngsters before the demolition of Queens Pier must be one good example too. All these prove the youth are not as apathetic as some people think.

Some may say young people are addicted to the internet, but actually, they are also using the internet to link society and express their concern about Hong Kong. For instance, they set up groups and pages on Facebook to find people with the same political inclinations. They also use Xanga to express their comments about the government. Their actions on the internet even encouraged the government to set up a page on Facebook to communicate with them. The youth today are actually smart.

Moreover, another characteristic of the youth is diligence. Every year, thousands of students sit for the HKCEE. It is known to everyone that getting 10As in HKCEE is formidable. But every single year, there must be students getting 10As. There are even students getting 6As in the HKALE, which needs unimaginable hard work. This shows how hard-working Hong Kong students are.

As the pillars of tomorrow's society, Generation Y needs our support and encouragement, but not criticism. There are many good characteristics of the youth we have not found out yet. Let's praise them more instead of pointing our fingers at them!



WELCOME TO 'TINspiration'

TIN + *inspiration* = **TINspiration**

This is a new anthology of students' writing of Tin Ka Ping Secondary School in the 2009-2010 school year.

This anthology is a witness of students' inspiration in writing originated from the warmth of students' second home: our school. A wide variety of ideas and views are shared among us.

Hope all of you enjoy reading it!

Ms Lau Wai Man
Ms Lam Sau Ping

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