New Voices

2013

Cover designed by 6C Ho Hin Ching

Table of Contents

- Foreword 3-4
- Our class drama performance 5
- A Personal Letter 6-7
- Book Report on 'The Landing of the Pilgrims' 8-9
- My New Friend in CCC Secondary School 10-11
- Baby Mother 12-13
- My Mom Is Shrinking 14-16
- Postcard 17
- Letter to a Pen Friend 18-19
- A superhero 20-21
- My special Mum 22-23
- Elephant 24-25
- The shopping centre in my community 26
- Book Report on Chicken Soup for the Soul (I) 27-30
- Film Review on 'Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone' 31-34
- My Dog and I 35-37
- Poem commentary - 'Restaurant' I 38-40
- Poem commentary - 'Restaurant' II 41-44
- Book Report on The Secret Garden 44-49
- Hello & Goodbye 50-52

- Good Day & Goodbye! My Dear Crocodile 53-54
- A letter to the editor – Love Should Wait? I 55-57
- A letter to the editor – Love Should Wait? II 58-60
- Letter to the editor – Mainland Visitors 61-63
- Stop domestic violence! 64-66
- Domestic violence 67-69
- Speech - Green Initiative 70-72
- Informal letter –

  Disadvantages of buying an essay from the Internet 73-74
- My Unlucky Day 76-77
- A Night At School 78-79
- How to address the problem of young people smoking 80-81
- Put a halt to child abuse 82-85
- Acrostic Poems 86-91
- Drama script – The Vegetable Girl 92-93
- Drama script – Phone Call at Classroom 94-95

Foreword

We live in an age of IT domination. Over the past few years, the art of writing has transformed dramatically form pen and paper into finger flicking on the screens of fancy gadgets. In the face of all these changes, nevertheless, the ability to write remains crucial to one's success in education and work.

In a sense, the instant access to information has given us a new impetus for writing. Today's writers can gather what is needed for any topic simply by clicking a few buttons. Facts, opinions, vocabulary and even language are readily available. Young writers can now achieve what was deemed impossible in the past. After all, what fun can be compared with sharing feelings and ideas with others?

In this school, we are glad to have a group of young writers who enjoy writing and are eager to share with their fellow schoolmates. They have put together their creative works (essays, short stories, poems, play scripts, etc.) and compiled them into the second issue of our student magazine 'New Voices'.

People say what is written with effort is read with pleasure. We hope you will find our 'New Voices' fun and inspiring.

Finally, a special thank to Mr. Thomas Gibbs for proofreading the student scripts.

The Editorial Board
New Voices

1A Lin Ho Fung James (16)

Our class drama performance

Last week, our class 1A performed a drama at the school hall. It was a good experience for us since it was our debut. Before the show, we had made a lot of props such as masks, clothes, furniture and toys. We worked very hard on the drama and had many rehearsals after school every day.

The drama was about a hunter who caught a lion but a mouse helped the lion to escape. Our performance started in the afternoon. We were waiting anxiously at the backstage for our turn. When the curtains were drawn, I was a bit nervous as the hall was crowded with teachers and schoolmates. During the show, we felt very excited and scared, one of the characters forget to play her part. It was embarrassingly funny. The teachers and schoolmates clapped and laughed loudly. At the end, we felt glad because we completed the performance and were cheered up by the audience.

The drama teacher and English teacher felt very happy and said 'good job'. We were very proud of ourselves. All our efforts finally paid off!

1A Fung King Chi Cynthia (26)

A Personal Letter

4th February, 2013

Harry XYZ

1, 2, 3 Buchan

South UK

Dear Harry,

Hello! How are you? My name is Cynthia, 13 years old and I am a Secondary 1 student of Cheng Chek Chee Secondary School in Hong Kong. I am writing to you as I have always wanted to have a pen pal in the UK.

Now, let me tell you something about my family. My mother is a hard-working and responsible housewife. She takes care of me and my brother. She is a manager of a company. My brother is a Primary 6 student of medium height. He is clever but also a bit childish.

My hobby is collecting stamps. It's a meaningful activity and I have been doing this for about three years. In fact, collecting stamps requires a lot of time and patience. But

when I look at the album which is full of stamps, I always feel proud of myself.

Apart from collecting stamps, I also like playing a great variety of sports. I enjoy swimming, and I can swim quite fast. I am also fond of playing tennis, yet I am not good at that indeed. Recently, I took up badminton and I'm picking it up very fast. Another thing I like is reading books. As you know, reading books enriches our vocabulary and broaden our horizons. I like reading detective books, especially the one called 'Sherlock Holmes.' Moreover, I like travelling abroad. I have already been to UK!

What are your hobbies? Please write back soon. I look forward to getting to know more about you!

Your friend,

Cynthia

1A Leung Wai Ping Jackie (29)

Book Report on 'The Landing of the Pilgrims'

Title : The landing of the Pilgrims
Author : James Daugherty
Publisher : N.Y Random

This book is about a small group of people called Pilgrims who were very unhappy because the king of England did not let them worship god in their own way. So, they packed their belongings and said good bye to their friends and families.

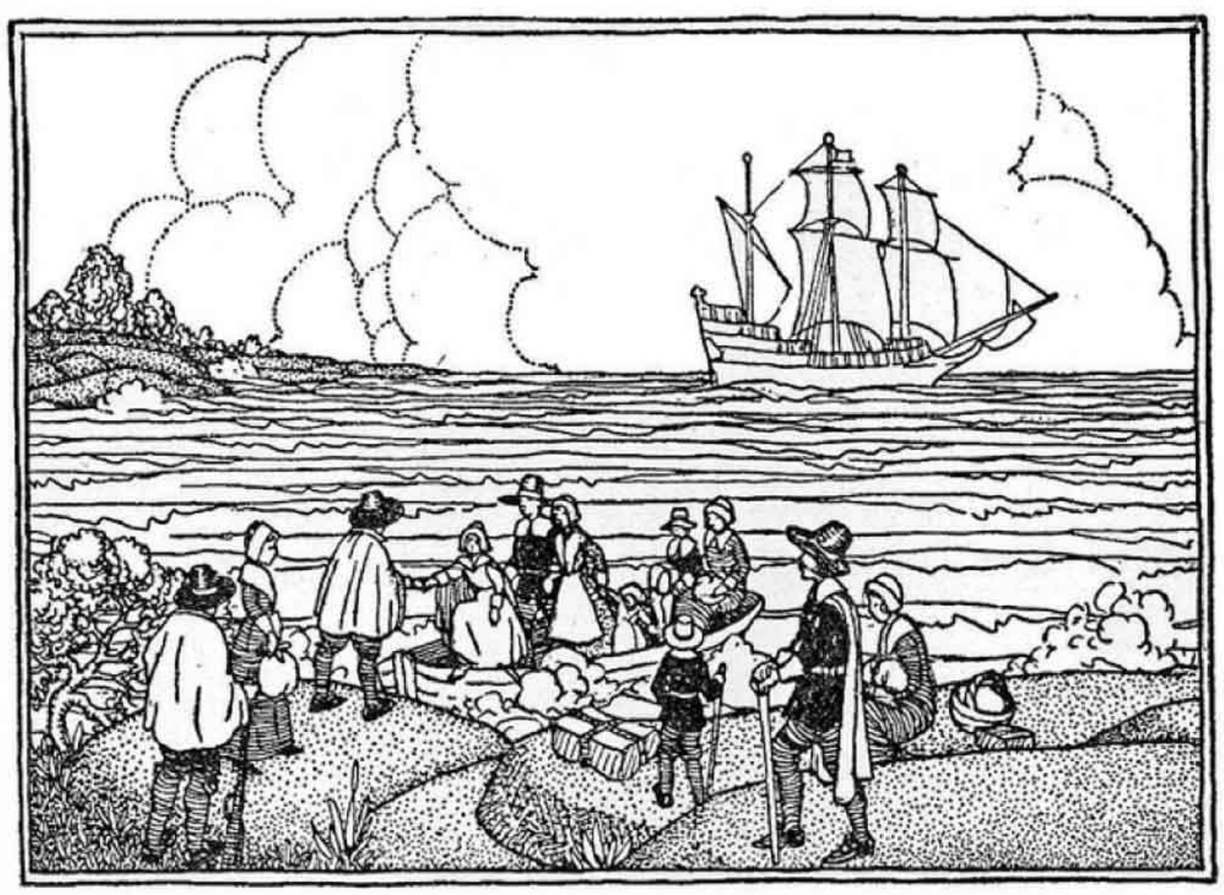
The pilgrims set sail in a small wooden ship called the *Mayflower* in hope of finding freedom and a better life in a new world called America.

After a long, stormy, tiring journey, they finally arrived in Plymouth Rock where they built long and plain houses so they could all share it. However, during the cold and harsh winter, many of them died because food was scarce.

Fortunately, an Indian named Samoset came to their aid.

He taught them to fish and plant. When autumn came, the pilgrims rejoiced over their harvest. They knew that they would have never survived without the help of the Indians, so they invited the Indians to join them in a forest. They ate and drank for two days. They called this feast 'Thanks giving'.

After I read this book, I learnt that we should appreciate and be thankful for everything we have and not to take anything for granted. Also, we shouldn't discriminate against anyone because of their religion or race.



1A Leung Wai Ping Jackie (29)

My New Friend in CCC Secondary School

What is a friend? A friend is someone whom we put faith in, someone who understands and cares about us, someone whom we can rely on and someone who will always be with us, especially, when we need the comfort of a friend. We can never live without a friend.

Luckily, I have met a good friend at my new school. Her name is Crystal Yip, a calm, optimistic and easy-going twelve-year-old girl in my class.

Crystal is tall and slender. She has long black hair that is always tied up in a pony tail. Her bright black eyes are always filled with wonder and care.

Crystal always matches her clothes nicely, like a plain shirt with printed skirt. She is a very organized person. She is enthusiastic about organizing and promoting events. She is also eager to learn new stuff, she is not afraid of asking questions when she doesn't understand.

Crystal is the president of our class; she is very good at organizing activities and bonding together. She is willing to help when someone needs her. Crystal is also very hard-working, she sacrifices her time to organize and help her classmates because she believes 'No pain, No gain'. Her selflessness and eagerness is something we should all earn.

I, personally, think it is a great pleasure to meet her. I hope our friendship will last forever.

1B Chan Wan Tang (2)

Baby Mother

Last weekend, while sleeping, I heard my mother shouting, 'Wilson, wake up! It's 9 o'clock now!' So I woke up. However, I did not see my mother. I wondered, 'Mum, where are you?' A voice came behind me. I turned and saw no one. I was wondering what had happened. Suddenly, I heard my mum's voice again! 'Wilson, I'm here! Here! I am on your bed!' I turned around and found my mother. "Oh my gosh! Mum, why are you so tiny? You're only 20 cm tall!' I was scared and did not know what to do. 'Oh! I must bring you to hospital immediately!' I exclaimed.

So I brought my mother to hospital. The doctor said, 'Well…I will give you a pill. Ask your mother to take the medicine and she will be normal again tonight.' We were relieved on hearing this.

When I came back from hospital, I did all the housework. First, I cleaned the door. Next, I washed the clothes and cooked for the family because I thought I should do something at this moment.

I was exhausted when I finished all the work. My mother must be a superwoman because she used to do all the housework every day.

Finally, I joined her in the hospital. We played card games because it was quite boring waiting in the ward. At about 8 o'clock, the magic moment came, my mother became normal again and I was very happy. Now, I help my mother to do the housework every day.

1B Tse Wing Yin Angela (30)

My Mom Is Shrinking …

Last Sunday, I woke up, then brushed my teeth and had breakfast in the garden as usual. I couldn't find my breakfast, but suddenly my mum changed her size and became much smaller, only 20 cm tall! I felt scared at that moment, 'What has happened?' I asked anxiously. 'I wanted to try the acorn of this tree. In a flash I became like this' 'Umm. I cook the breakfast first, you look hungry,' mum nodded with a smile. I tried to divert her attention and wanted her not to think about that, but it did not work.

I went to the kitchen, but I didn't know what I could cook for her. Sausages? Maybe. Did mum like sausages? I didn't know. I found that I did not know mum at all. I felt very ashamed. I was pondering what I could cook for her, I remembered that mum liked to eat spaghetti. Yes! I could make spaghetti for her! I thought it's suitable for mum. But mum had shrunk, so I only cooked a small portion for her.

Surprisingly, mum loved the spaghetti that I cooked! I felt proud of myself.

After that, I wanted to know why mum had become 20cm tall. So I tried to find that out by surfing the internet. There's a blogger who writes: 'Every year, the fairies celebrate a festival on Earth. They leave some fairy dust in the country. When people eat the acorns of the tree tainted with fairy dust, they will turn to 20 cm tall…till the evening!' After reading this, I felt much reassured. So, I decided to have an unforgettable and happy day with mum.

At one o'clock, we both were hungry, so we went out for lunch. However, mum was too small to fit in her clothes again. At last, I gave her the clothes of my doll. It was fun! I put mum onto my shoulder, I liked the way she watched everything from a new angle.

We found a western restaurant. We sat down and ordered some food. Mum was only 20cm tall, so she could only stand on the table. Mum was very tired of standing on the table to eat so I just let her sat on the box for sugar. When the food we ordered arrived, we shared the steak, the soup and the bread. We both enjoyed the food. Mum was very

full. When we were on our way home, mum sat on my shoulder as before.

Time flew. In the evening, she returned to the normal size. However, I started to miss my pint-sized mum because she was a lot quieter and more lovely. Could the same happen to me? That would be great fun!

1D Chan Ka Po (19)

Postcard

10th July, 2013

Hi Kim,

I am having a wonderful time here in Thailand. It is sunny and hot right now. Therefore, I wear skirts every day! I am staying in a grand hotel with a swimming pool and lots of trees. My room is very big and clean. I like this hotel very much. Bangkok is a wonderful city and there're many things to see and do. I went sightseeing and tried local food. Thai food is hot and spicy and I tried fried noodles, curry chicken with rice, seafood soup and sticky rice. They were spicy but tasty. I went snorkeling, swimming and scuba diving. I also enjoyed surfboarding, sunbathing and jet skiing. It was fun exciting and relaxing. I bought a lot of souvenirs. Some are for you!

I wish you were here. See you next week!

Love

Mable

1D Lau Sum In Calby (28)

Letter to a Pen Friend

29th March, 2013

Dear Donna,

My name's Calby Lau and I'm twelve years old. I live in Tseung Kwan O, Hong Kong with my family. I would like to be your pen friend.

I like listening to music and playing computer games. I love sports as well. I love swimming, playing badminton, skipping and dancing. Sometimes, I go swimming with my friends and family. Do you know how to swim?

I'm very happy of my new school life. Although I have been here for 7 months only, I already met many friends. Christine is my best friend at school. She is nice and cheerful. My class teacher is very nice too.

A few days ago, I went to the Clear Water Bay. Do you know where this beach is? It is very famous in Hong Kong. I'm a Christian. I usually go to church on Sunday. How do

you enjoy your weekends?

Now, I'm enjoying my Easter Holiday. I love this festival because I can eat my favourite chocolate Easter eggs. In Hong Kong, there are some special festivals like the Mid-Autumn Festival. We play with lanterns, admire the full moon and have dinner with our families. Everyone is very happy. What special festivals do you have in Korea? Please tell me more about your life. Write back soon.

Best wishes
Calby

2A Ng Ching Ting (25)

A Superhero

On an ordinary day, I went to school in the morning. My English teacher Miss Hung said, 'Some hunters are still killing endangered animals!' I was distressed when I heard about it. I hoped I could help these poor animals.

Suddenly, I heard a call for help. I was very nervous but I remained to be calm. When I looked out of the window, I could see some hunters trying to capture tigers for their skins. I was very angry. So, I turned into the Eco Boy. I thought I was very handsome.

Then, I flew to where the trouble was. The hunters said, 'Oh no! Here comes the Eco Boy.' The tigers were happy when I flew over them.

I used the power to catch them. The hunters were scared. Later, I think they did something wrong. So, I threw them into water. They were scared and felt sorry. They asked me to let them go.

Finally, I wanted them to promise me that they would not capture the animals again and help animals find their homes. The hunters agreed. So, I did not punish them. I helped the poor animals find new homes. The hunters were happy and thanked me. I was moved too.

I hope that human beings will not harm animals and all creatures can live in peace.

2A Ng Wing Po (27)

My Special Mum

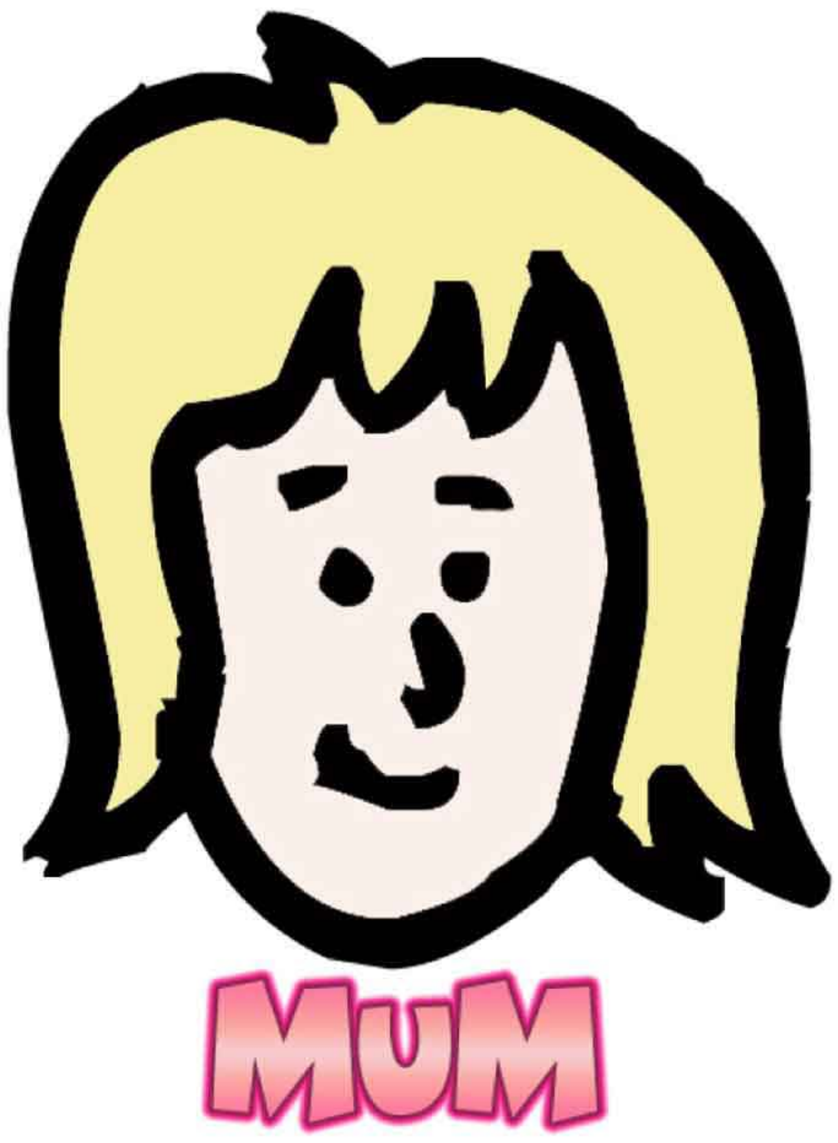
My mum is a special lady. Sometimes, she tells jokes to make me smile. Sometimes she punishes me for the wrong things I did. If I have problems, she will help me and give me support and advice. Some people may think she isn't special, but she is very special in my eyes! She is my special mum! Although she doesn't need to work, she needs to take care of us, my father, my two older sisters and me! My mum needs to do lots of housework, but she is never tired.

My mum likes to help other people. She always teaches me to be a helpful girl. We need to help other less fortunate people. She always says that.

My mum also teaches me to be an honest person. We cannot steal things. If someone lost something, we should return it back to the person. I want to be a person who is just like my special mum!

My mum is a special person in my eyes! I'm glad I have a special person to be my mum. My special mum is my role model!

I love you very much, my great mum!



2A Yeung Ming Mei (33)

Elephant

Do you know what the largest animal on the earth is? They have big ears and long noses. They live in Africa and Asia. They are, of course, the gentle giants - elephants.

Adult elephants are normally 2.5m to 7.3m tall and weigh 10 tons. They have grey bodies, but their bodies don't have any long fur. Therefore, they get skin diseases easily. So they often take a bath in the mud pit to protect their skin.

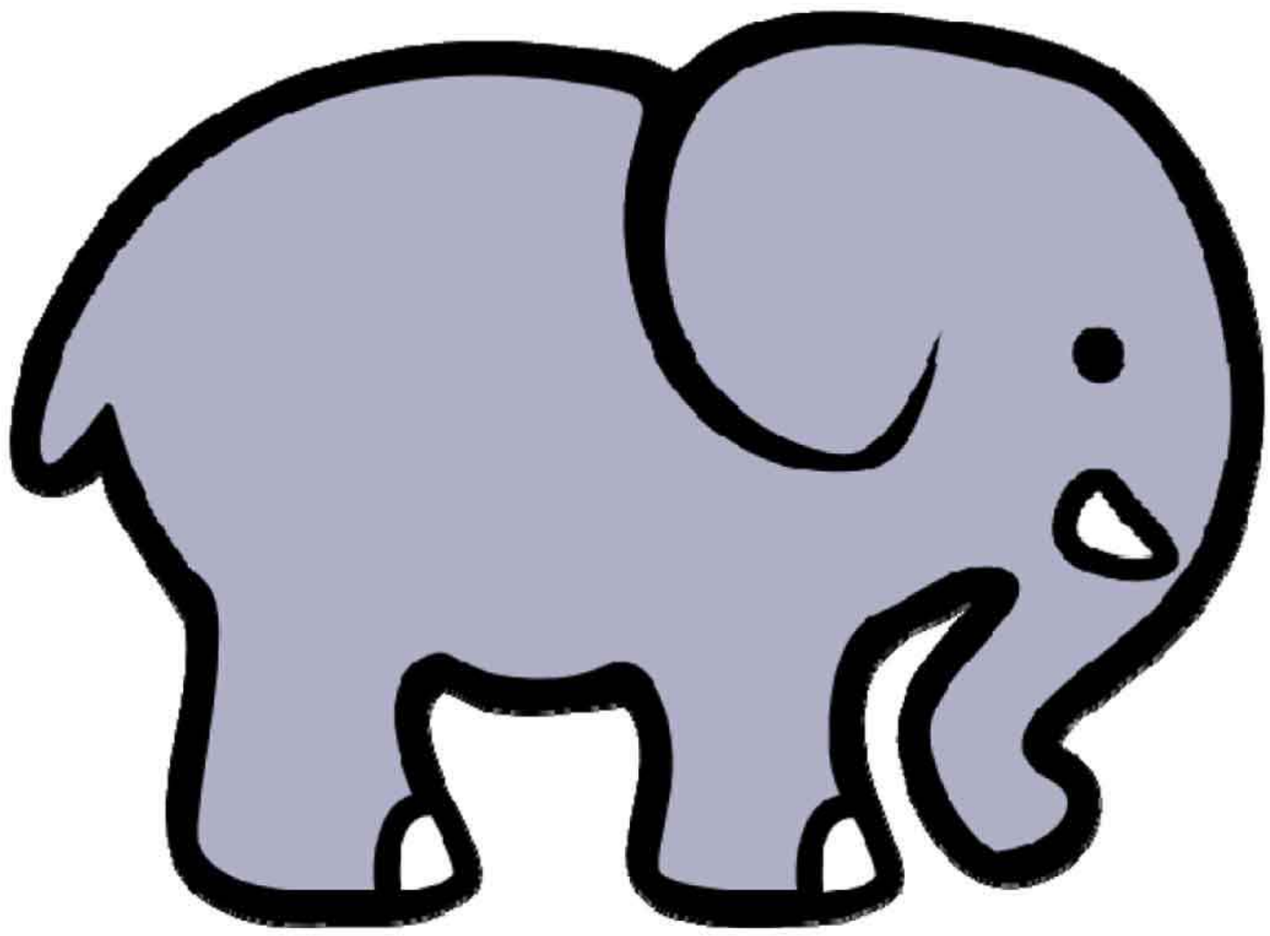
Most elephants live in Africa. They like living there because there are more spaces for them to move around and lots of leaves and trees to feed them.

Every day, they spend 16 hours on searching for food and eat 30 to 60 kg of food. Although they eat a lot, 60% of the food will not be absorbed to become energy. They spend other time playing and sleeping.

Many Hong Kong people think the elephants are very cute and friendly because they always appear in cartoons.

For example, the 'little' Dumbo of Disney is still the favourite of many.

Do you like elephants? If yes, please try your best to protect them! Elephants are now facing extinction. Why are they facing extinction? It is because they don't have enough food to eat and they are the targets of hunters. Many trees have been cut down for human towns and hunters kill them to get their ivories. So if you want to protect them, please don't buy any ivory products! Support campaigns which support animal welfare. Let's work hard to save these beautiful animals.



2C Shing Sha Sha Teresa (27)

The Shopping Centre in my Community

The shopping centre I usually go locates in Ma On Shan. It's called Sunshine City. It is in the town centre. We can go there by bus.

There are three floors. An attractive point of this building is that there are several famous department stores and a lot of different kinds of restaurants. Moreover, there is a well-developed public transport network around the shopping centre.

I enjoy eating in this shopping centre. There is a wide variety of food. For example, I like eating Chinese food, Japanese food and Korean food in there.

Sunshine City has a lot of shops, such as Shasha, the Body shop, Citistore, Marathon Sports. I am very happy and excited to go shopping in there. I always stuff my shopping trolley with things I like. Mom says I should be a professional buyer for shops in future.

I think most facilities of this shopping centre are good enough for me. However, I hope there will be European restaurants and gift shops.

Welcome to our Sunshine Shopping Centre!

3A Chan Yi Jing Lucious (3)

Book Report on Chicken Soup for the Soul (I)

Title: Chicken Soup for the Soul (I)
Author: Jack Lanfield, Mark Victor Hausen
Publisher: Health Communications, Inc.

Chicken Soup for the Soul is a book with many stories inside, and each of them is not related, but brings out the same message – encouraging people to carry out kindness and love. Those stories are not written by the authors. Instead, they were collected from various channels and composed them into a book.

When I first saw the title, I thought it was about cooking because of the phrase 'Chicken Soup'. In fact, I was wrong. It is a collection of recipes for people to make a better soul. It sounds philosophical. Each of the collected stories has a piece of comment from the authors such as 'Money and fame do not automatically make people happy' and 'If there is light in the soul, there will be beauty in the person'. From these, I can possibly imagine what the authors try to tell by the book. They try to show ways to produce a moment of

peace and rest for people who feel tired and exhaust in mind in particular. That is why the book is named 'Chicken Soup'.

I agree that people need more rest and a better arrangement for themselves nowadays. Somehow people have more and more things to care of in their growth. Primary students can spend a lot of time on entertainment. They do not need to care how limited of time at all; when they are promoted to Primary 3, they start to be told what to do and what to learn. They are sent to tutorial centres for classes for better prospect; very soon, perhaps only three years later, they may be asked to plant their step further for their further career, and so. Their destiny is simply controlled by their parents. I have no hostility to primary students' parents. All I want to express is that the request and stress of our society given to us is getting heavier, even to primary children. I understand what the parents are planning is for their own child's prospect, but I have found out that a heart which is full of targets and great achievements is too narrow and practical. Those people simply forget sympathy and be grateful to their surroundings.

This may be the result of having a huge target to strive for. In some cases, when one grows, he has gradually become numb to others and become selfish due to one's environment. All these are not good to one's life. Therefore, the authors try to remind the world through these collected stories.

Amongst the stories, *One at a Time* has impressed them most. It is about how an old man treats starfishes which have been pushed over the sand. While a young man is walking along the coast, he sees an old man picks up the starfishes on the sand and throw them back to the sea. He wonders and asks why the old man does it. The old man responses, 'I'm going to throw these starfishes back to the ocean, or else, they'll die because of dryness.' At that time, they young man does not understand and points out, 'There must be thousands of them being scattered over thousands of seas. Throwing them back to the sea does make no difference.' The old man smiles and picks up anther starfish, 'I can make a difference on it.' Then he throws it back to the sea. This is very meaningful.

Indeed, there are many problems cause by our disinterest such as pollution. Most people do not want to solve it as they think their act makes no difference on such a huge problem. Another example is wars. Numerous people have asked why different races and governments cannot stop a war between them, why it is so difficult to bring a peace to a country, and when there is only peace in the world. For all these questions, an answer appears in the above story. For what is good to be done, just do it although no one is doing the same as you. Sometimes, it seems you can change nothing when viewing the large picture. However, do not underestimate small acts like honesty, love, kindness, courtesy and faith as they can be great strength to solve a huge problem. These acts can be done in our daily life. When we do, the acts will become other people's light and faith for their life. For each of giving or sharing act, there is a hidden joy following. Try to be the one who gives, but not the one who solely takes. These are the main themes that the authors try to deliver in this book.

3B Au Kam Pang (1)

Film Review on 'Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone'

Nowadays in Hong Kong, people have a lot of stress, but don't worry. We can use a lot of good ways to relieve stress. I think that watching movies is quite good. In the following, I would like to give a review on a fantastic movie called "Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone".

It is an old film but it was a hit when it was first on shown. Even today, it still has a lot of fans. Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone is the first film in the series. They story starts with three children who learn witchcraft. The main character is a little boy called Harry Potter. Another boy is a good chess player, Ron Weasley. The last one is a girl called Hermione Granger, who is clever and good at witchcraft.

The story starts in 1981. Harry was born in 1980 but unfortunately, his parents were killed when he was very young. At the beginning of the movie, Harry lives in his uncle's home. He lives there with his uncle Vernon, his aunt

Petunia and their son Dudley. They don't like Harry because they think Harry is a strange person. His aunt doesn't like Harry so he gets excluded until Hagrid takes Harry to the Magic School of Hogwarts. Harry meets Hermione and Ron. Besides that, Harry becomes the youngest quidditch player because of an accident. Harry gets back the Remembrall in the flying class. Luckily, Professor MsGonagall sees it and invites Harry to become the quidditch seeker. Besides that, there are a lot of exciting things just like the quidditch competition.

Second, I am going to tell you the character. I like Hermione most because she is clever. She helps Harry and Ron to solve a lot of problems with her knowledge.

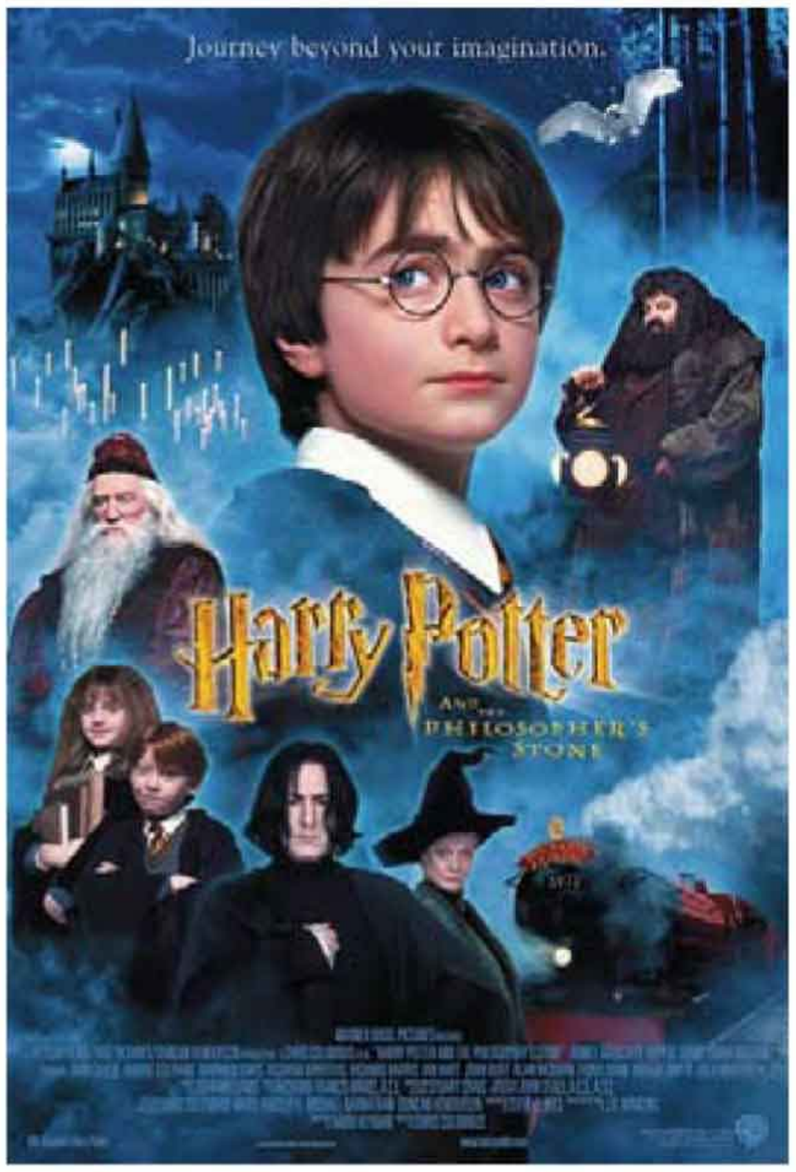
From the outside, Harry seems like a primary student with a pair of oversized glasses. Deep inside, he is brave and can keep calm in an emergency. Ron looks naïve and silly. However, he is the best chess player. Despite his young age, he has already won a number of competitions. Hermione has long and brown hair and her eyes are soulful. She is good at study. She can remember a lot of knowledge. I think that if I were her, I would be very happy because her

photographic memory could help me survive in Hong Kong schools.

After the setting and characters, I would like to talk about the plot. Some scenes are exciting, just like when Harry uses the Philosophy's stone to kill Voldemort, Harry's enemy. The evil Voldemort gets injured and he needs the Philosopher's stone to heal himself. Harry guesses his enemy is Snape but he is wrong. At night, Harry sees his enemy in action. So he follows his enemy and goes to the chamber on the third floor. Harry makes the monster sleep and gets into the room. There they were confronted by some killer plants. Luckily, Hermione remembers the plant's characteristics and saves Ron and Harry. After meeting the plants, they see a big chessboard. They know that they must win the game. Ron wins the game but he gets hurt. Only Harry gets into the room. If you want to know after that, buy a DVD to watch the final. You will have fun.

After watching "Harry Potter and Philosopher's Stone", besides feeling fun, I have learnt a lot like doing some good things for others, treasuring friendships and making effort

in everything we do. Harry, Ron and Hermione let me know that friends are important to anyone. Good friends will always help you and even save your life. We should always trust your friends. I have also learnt a lesson from the bad guy Voldemort. We shouldn't use our power in the wrong way because it will hurt others including ourselves. When someone is in need, we should extend a helping hand. At last, I have learnt that we should work hard and face hardships and difficulties bravely. These are the real messages behind the fancy special effects.



4A Cheng Tsz Chung (5)

Learning English through Short Stories

'My Dog and I'

It was a cold, moonless night. It was a painful and heartbreaking journey to my home, but I knew that I could go through it without any regret. Yes, I could see the light from the streetlamps right now. This was the right decision.

Two days ago, it was an ordinary morning with warm sun and gentle breeze. My dog Step was very excited. I guessed it wanted to go out and took a walk with me because it was wagging its tail frenetically. Then, we went to a little park. Don't belittle this park. This is a 'paradise' to Step and me. We always played together in this park and had many precious memories there.

While Step was chasing the butterflies, I noticed that the sky suddenly became dark and cloudy. Next, I threw a ball to Step and it jumped to catch the ball. That was the beginning of the hardest time of my life. Step gave me the ball but it could not stand normally. Actually, it fell to the ground and the ball rolled rolling to my foot. I cried out,

'Step, Step, stand up.' But it was like Step could not understand what I said. He just could not move! I was worried and took him to the vet immediately. My view blurred while I was taking Step to the clinic.

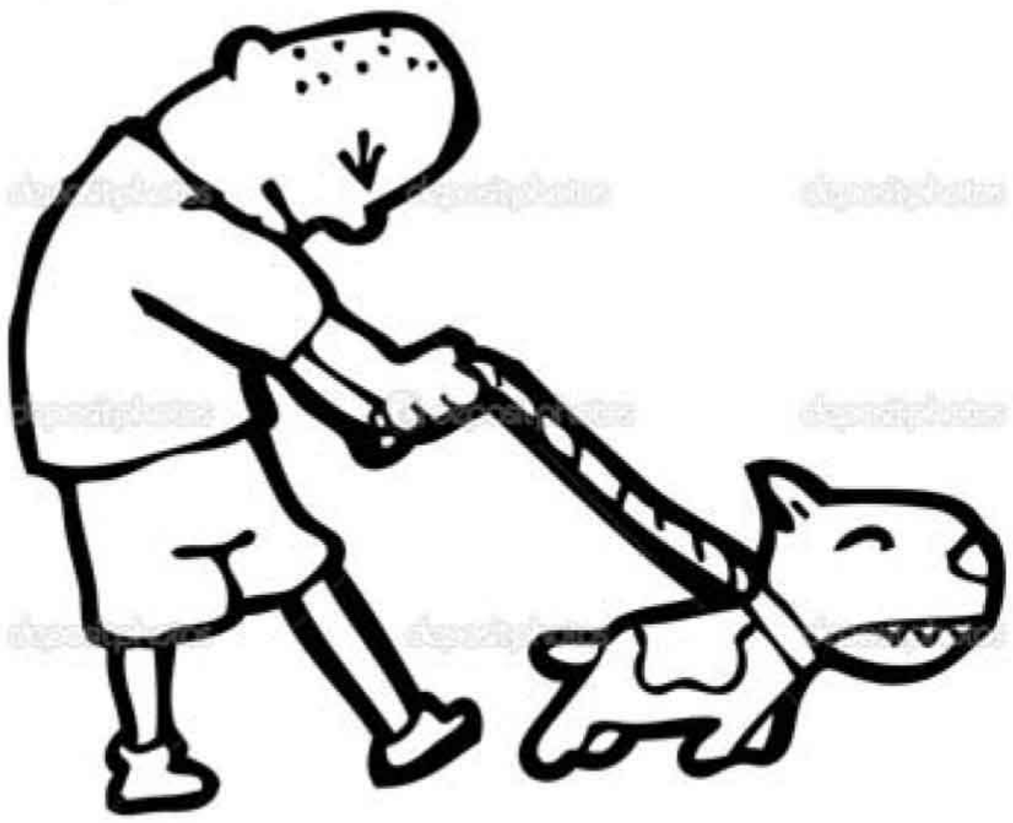
Before long – I did not know how long I had been waiting. I was watching the black sky and hoping Step would be fine. My hands were trembling and I couldn't concentrate. All of a sudden, the door opened and the vet walked towards me. My heart sank!

'Unfortunately,' the vet said, 'your dog has a recessive disease. It is hard to cure. That's the reason why your dog fell to the ground suddenly. I am sorry to tell you there are only two ways to save your dog. First, you agree to a major operation but the success rate is only fifty percent. If it fails, you dog will die immediately. The other way is not to do anything and your dog may have only six months to live. So, I think you should make your decision now'.

'Can I see my dog now?' I asked. 'Yes, of course,' he said. Then, I went into the ward and I could only see a weak and poor Step. Step was clear-headed. I was touching

its head and my tears were dropping helplessly. But Step did not give up. Instead, it looked at me with a smile. Then I knew what I should do. I made up my mind. Step, you were a strong friend in front of me. My tears stopped and I found my way with this smile.

On my way home, I could not help thinking of my dog. From his smile, I realized his will to live. I knew our relationship would not change. I knew we would be friends forever. 'Step, you are a good dog,' I whispered. With a smile, I knew I could face the future no matter what lay ahead….



4A Lim Ho Hung (16)

Poem Commentary on 'Restaurant'

15th May, 2013

Dear Pat,

Your mail is always the best present from the Internet. I am glad to have received your poem 'Lunchtime in Golden Bauhinia Chinese Restaurant.' It is a brilliant poem, however, there are some areas which I have reservations.

There are five stanzas in the poem and each consists of three lines. I guess it is a free verse. You have used each stanza to describe one aspect of the restaurant. For example, you mentioned what people usually do in the restaurant, the service of it and your feelings.

After viewing the whole ad, I like the fourth stanza best. It is because it describes the taste of dim sum. It tells the readers there are different types of dim sum, ranging from soft and juicy to hard and crunchy. Your poem creates a lively and busy picture of a local restaurant.

More importantly, what is the purpose of the poem? It seems to attract overseas tourists? Does it serve this purpose? I think you are doing more harm than good when you focus too much on the disturbance of the

restaurant. For example, it takes a long time to wait for a table. The customers need to wait a long time for their food. As for the environment, it is so noisy that it 'hurts' your ears! Are these descriptions counter-productive?

Please be reminded that you are in fact writing an advertisement to attract more visitors. You are not supposed to write a complaint letter to the manager of the restaurant and want them to improve. Besides, in advertising, we tend to use a lot of poetic devices to arouse the interest of the viewers. For example, the use of repetition can stimulate audience. They will remember the message better if it is repeated over and over again.

Also, in the choice of content, you may use more unusual or special food offered in the restaurant to appeal to the potential customers. It can let them feel the food culture of the Chinese. Perhaps you could describe the deco of the restaurant. After all, it is the food, service and environment that are most important in choosing where to eat.

In the end, I hope my opinion has been useful to you. Don't give up. I am sure you will greatly improve in the future. I am looking forward to your next poem soon.

Yours,

C W

Chris Wong

<u>Lunchtime in Golden Bauhinia Chinese Restaurant</u>

Many people wait

It's already one o'clock

Will they get a seat?

Around the tables

Everyone talking loudly

It makes my ears hurt

I can smell my lunch

Noodles, garlic and roast pork

I hope it comes soon

Delicious dim sum

Spring rolls, crispy and crunchy,

They are my favourite

Yummy roast pork bun

So hot it burns my hand

Ouch! Eat it quickly

4A Wong Hin Hei Jeffy (23)

<u>Poem Commentary on 'Restaurant'</u> (II)

Dear Pat,

I am glad to have received your poem entitled 'Lunchtime in Golden Bauhinia Chinese Restaurant'. I never know that you are a poet! You are definitely not the creative type and so, it is surprising to see you write for a writing competition. Nevertheless, there are some areas which I have reservations. In this letter, I would like to share with you some of my opinions.

It is a good poem because you have used a wide range of poetic devices. They help to make it more interesting and lively. You give the readers the unusual scenes in the restaurant in a fun way. There are lots of adjectives to describe the different things in it. This is arguably the best part of it.

For the poem structure, it has five stanzas and each has three lines. You are brilliant to divide it into 2 parts. In the first and second stanzas, you describe the environment and the scenes in the restaurant. They leave us an

unforgettable impression of a local restaurant. As for the last three stanzas, you 'tell' us your own feelings and favourite in it. This arrangement is clear-cut and makes it easy for reader to comprehend the poem.

Concerning your use of poetic devices, I am pleased with your brilliant work. I especially like your use of 'Alliteration' which is 'crispy and crunchy' since you are likely to put the eating sound of the spring rolls near my ear, I could almost hear that! The other poetic device used in the poem is 'Onomatopoeia' in the last line, 'Ouch!' and this shows the steaming heat of the roost pork bun and lets us have a mental picture of the bun.

Although you have a good use of poetic devices, you should beware of the aim and the purpose of this advertisement -- it wants to attract overseas tourists. In the first and second stanzas, you are criticizing the noisy environment of the restaurant. It is not a good way to promote a restaurant or maybe it will even affect people's willingness to come. As a consequence, you should be aware of the content of your poem, do not choose anything that would be counter-productive.

Secondly, you didn't use any rhyming pattern in your poem and it causes your poem become too plain and monotonous. The readers can't be interested in it and it will lose its impact as an advertisement. In advertising, people use a lot of repetition and rhyming words to emphasize his feelings, and also it can help to stimulate audience and we can draw their attention.

Professionally speaking, I suggest you should concentrate on those mistakes, especially the rhyming pattern of the poem because rhyming can help customers remember the message. For example, you may use rhyming in the first and the third lines of each stanza. The second improvement is that you should replace the lines of criticism with appreciation. For example, you can talk about the family gathering in the restaurant and let the visitor feel the lively and warm mood of the Chinese family in the restaurant through your poem. Tourists are encouraged to come and feel it on their own.

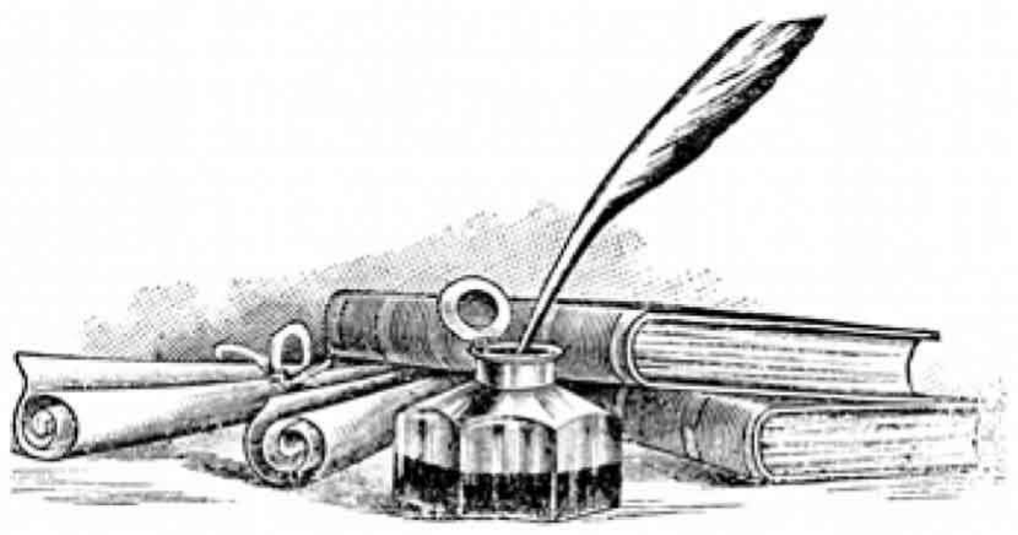
All in all, it is a splendid job of a beginner and I am surprised that you write such a wonderful poem in spite of

the few mistakes. You should try more on the aspect of writing poems, you will improve greatly in the future.

Yours sincerely

JW

Jeffy Wong



4A Wong Ho Sing (24)

Book Report on The Secret Garden

Title: The Secret Garden

Author: Frances Hodgson Burnett

Publisher: Frederick A. Stokes

Do you have any secrets? I think everyone must have some. Once there was a girl who had a big secret with a boy. There was a garden where they could feel comfortable. I really want to have such a place where I can feel free without any work, study etc. Do you want such a place?

Have you ever heard of the book The Secret Garden? It was written by Frances Hodgson Burnett in 1888. It is a classic story. I was attracted to this book by the word 'secret'. I always like magical, mysterious stories. I always find myself being immersed in the fantastic and amazing worlds of these stories. Also, there is a recent Korean drama which is also called 'The Secret Garden'. So I want to take a look at what kind of story it is. That's why I chose it.

This book first talks about a girl, Mary Lennox whose

mother has died already. So she lives with a family called the Crawfords in India. There she has a servant who does all she wants. So she becomes selfish and rude.

One day, the Crawfords told tell her that she would be sent to her uncle, Craven. She had bad feelings about this big Craven's house when she was there before. Things change on a spring morning. Mary's servant, Martha, tells her about how beautiful at a moor near her room. Then she goes out almost every day. One day, she found a secret garden which she had heard from Martha. Then she met a boy, Dickon Sowerby, when she was trying to find some tools to tidy up the secret garden. They made friends with each other and started cleaning up the garden until dinner time.

Back home, that night, she heard a crying sound again. She wanted to find out where it came from. To everyone's surprise, it was from Colin Craven, the son of Mr. Graven. He could not go out because of his illness. Mary had never seen him in this house. When they were chatting, Mary told him about the secret garden carelessly. So she promised him that she would take him there.

After a few days, Mary and Dickson took him to the secret garden. Unfortunately, the gardener discovered that they were in the secret garden. Then he told Mr. Craven. Mr. Craven went there and blamed them for bringing his son there. From their conversation, the secret of the garden was finally revealed. The garden belongs to Mr. Craven and he locked it up after the death of his wife. He wanted to forget his loss and everything that could remind him of the good old days. Finally, he understood he should not be careless with his son. After this, the two become closer and their relationship improves.

I love this book very much because its ending is so surprising. At first, I thought it was a mysterious also magical story. There may be some exciting scenes. But there isn't. It talks about how a girl repairs a relationship with a father and a son because of her curiosity. She has also cured a man's crushed heart. Mr. Craven locked up the garden since his wife had died. He locked it up for about ten years. Meanwhile he locked up his heart for ten years. During this period, he blocked his son from his heart.

I think Mary is the most special character in the story.

She was a selfish and rude girl at first but she becomes a kind and pleasant girl in the end. I think it is because she did not have any love before she moved into the house. Although she did not meet many friends there, the story shows how love can change many things. Dickson and Martha are also very important. Without them, Mary cannot become an outgoing, generous and lovely girl. She feels curious about any strange things. To a certain extent, she is like me. But she is braver than me. I have questions when I come across strange things but I don't like to adventure into the unknown. I am scared I would get into trouble or danger. I may get lost and won't be able to get the answers. But Mary is very brave. The people around her tell her not to find the secret garden. But she still persists in finding the answer. I have learnt that I must be persistent in doing what I should do. In the end, though I may not get what I have strived for, I can still congratulate myself on the things I have done. The process is more important than the outcome. That's the message of the story.

After reading the story, I feel very contented. It gives me quite an exciting and touching experience. It seems a very simple story. In fact, it tells people not to be disheartened

when you meet some unfortunate things. In the meantime, it tells people to be more adventurous to realize your dream. I really recommend this book to everyone. Also, it is suitable for everyone. The words of this book are not difficult but it is rich in content. Please remember that you need to think more about the book's deep meaning. It may have different meanings for different people. Whatever the reason, the book is a good read for all!

4A Wong Hin Hei Jeffy (23)

Hello & Goodbye

"I missed you, Sandy, where have you been?" I shrieked with a rusty robot in my arms. I was frustrated and burst into tears about the disappearance of Sandy. And the story between Sandy and I started when I was four.

It was a sunny morning. Dad bought me a robot for my birthday and I gave it a name "Sandy". It companied me for a long time. Whether I was pleased or distressed, it was always by my side and that's why it was my favourite. All good things come to an end. Years later, it became rusty. My mum ordered me to throw it away. I refused because it had become my friend. Nevertheless, Mum threw it away while I was sleeping.

When I discovered, it was too late. I couldn't bring it back, Owing to this event, I loathed my mum and I had tried lots of way to buy Sandy after it was thrown away if anyone retrieved it from the dumping ground.

Five years later, I was studying in the secondary school

and I made a new friend. Her name was also Sandy. We were very close to each other and my schoolmates said we were like twins. We had experienced a lot since we became friends. We laughed and quarreled but all these only added colour to our friendship.

Until the day before, Sandy visited my home and we were making a great dinner for my birthday. While I was using the knife, it slipped from my hand and cut Sandy's hand. All of a sudden, I trembled since I discovered that there was no blood. Instead there were wires, electrical circuits and computer chips. My eyes were wide open. For a moment, I thought I was dreaming.

Afterwards, I bawled," Who are you? Are you my friend, Sandy? She replied," I'm Sandy, but I'm a robot. Did you remember your rusty robot, Sandy?" I memorized all those joyful scenes between Sandy and I. I tittered and said" You are my rusty robot!!"

She continued "A fairy cast a spell after your mum threw me away. Now, I am not a cybot, I have feelings and thinking. The most important thing is that I can company

you anytime. Nevertheless, if I tell you the real identity, I will turn back into a rusty robot." Simultaneously, some fairy dust came out and surrounded Sandy, she added" Goodbye, my best friend." I dashed forward to her, but I still couldn't catch her and I cried out" No, please don't me leave me alone." Then, she went and I knelt on the ground and held the rusty robot. Why did the fairy take her away from me and why was she so cruel to me? I wept for the whole night. Moreover, that was the longest night of my life and I couldn't forget her.

After a few months, I kept"Sandy" in my bag everyday since she went. I wished that she would find me if she went back to life. But the answer was still the same. Until a normal school day, while I was walking to my school, I saw a face that looked familiar and I ran after her. I asked, my face flushing red, "Are you Sandy?" She looked back with a smile on her lips.

4A Wong Hin Hei Jeffy (23)

Good Day & Goodbye!　My Dear Crocodile

'Hello, my little thing. Are you living happily here?'　I whispered. The animals looked into the air and gave no response to me. It was my free time and I came to the zoo to visit my pet crocodile. However, my feelings became miserable when I saw it like that. If I could turn back time, I would not have sent it to the zoo. Now, it is living in a cage and has lost its freedom.

The story began during a marvelous summer. I went to the country and explored the area. When I arrived there, I went to the river bank immediately. When I was walking, I heard some noise in the grass. Out of curiosity, I tried to take a look at it.

After parting the grass cautiously, I saw an egg. It was a

huge one. I just took it back to 'investigate'.

One week later, the egg was resting under a strong reading lamp and it hatched! 'What an amazing day!' I said to myself. 'From now on, you're my dear pet. I will take care of you.'

Nothing lasts forever. It grew bigger and bigger and I could not look after it. When my mom saw this enormous creature, she said, 'My son, you shouldn't keep it. It doesn't belong to you. It's a crocodile!' I could not accept this. It was my lovely pet and I could not leave it like this. She comforted me and explained that I needed to be strong to face the challenges of life.

Finally, I gave it to a local zoo. On the day I took it to its new home, I cried out. It was my best pet ever. Today, I went to visit it again and was saddened by what I saw. I could not help asking myself, 'Did I do the correct thing by sending my pet here?' There was no answer.

4A Wan Man Ki (35)

A letter to the editor – Love Should Wait?

Dear Editor,

I am writing in response to P. So's letter entitled 'LOVE SHOULD WAIT!' and would like to share my views on teenage love with the fellow readers.

Undeniably, it is true that certain behavior of many young teenage boys and girls such as holding hands and kissing in parks and public transport is not acceptable. The intimate behaviour of young people in public has become more blatant. I always see teenage boys and girls soul kissing, touching, rubbing in front of everybody. This is offensive to the spectators who have to put up with it. It also gives a bad impression to the visitors. Once we saw a couple in school uniform kissing at the shopping centre. They were standing at the entrance. They were so absorbed in it that they were blocking our way! So I share with P. So that today's young people are too open and their behaviour outrageous.

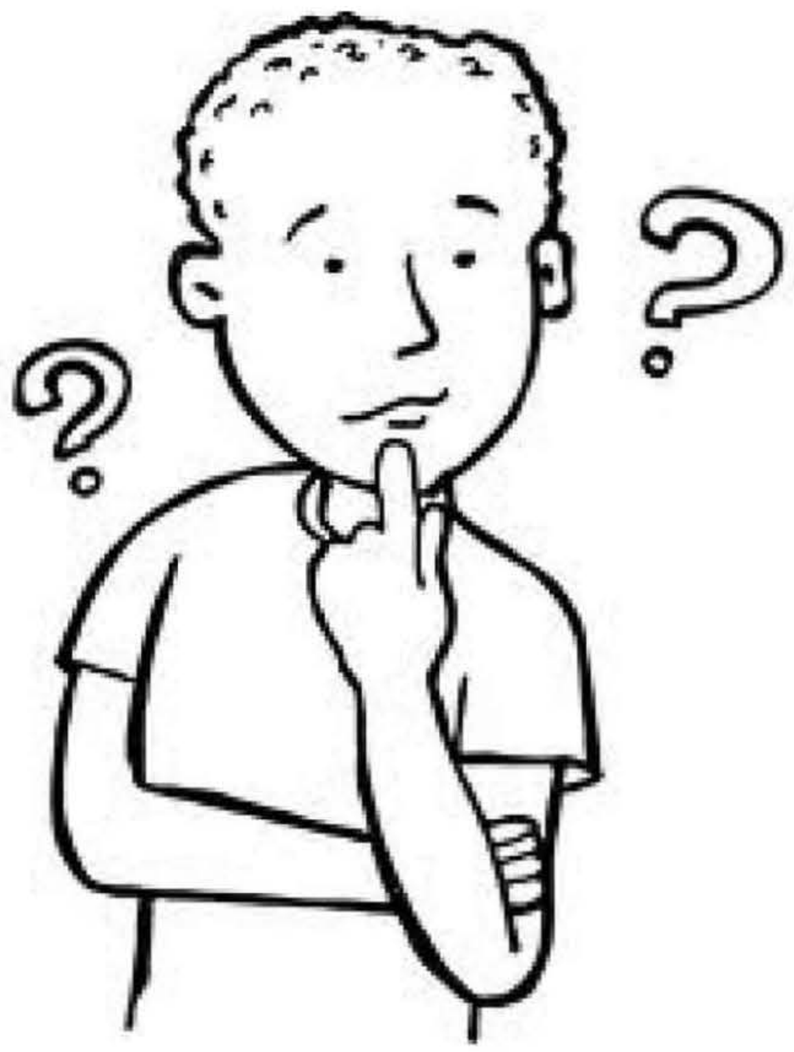
Moreover, nowadays, boys and girls start their love affairs too early. They are not mature enough. They would easily be affected by their peers. Also, they don't know how to behave well in public. Intimate behavior makes others feel embarrassed. Moreover, I agree with P. So that young people should be concentrating on their studies because most of them are students and studying hard is their responsibility. They should put more time on their study instead of wasting time on romance. If they can handle well, love affairs would not be a waste of time for them and it may be a good experience in life.

While I agree that young teenagers should concentrate on their study, I can't support the notion that parents should not allow their teenage children to start dating before they are 18. Dating doesn't always mean love affairs or developing a romance. Parents should not prohibit their children from dating. They should teach both the positive and negative effects to their children and let their children choose and help them to handle.

In conclusion, young people should control their behavior in public places and learn from making friends

with the opposite sex.

Yours faithfully,
Chris Wong



4B Ku Ho Fung (4)

Letter to the editor – Love Should Wait?

Dear Editor,

I am writing in response to P. So's letter entitled 'Love should wait!' which appeared in your paper on 13 March, criticizing teenage intimate behaviour in public. I do not agree romance is a waste of time and parents should keep their children away from developing a romance.

I agree with P. So that it is unacceptable for young teenage boys and girls to hug or even kiss in park and on public transport. Undeniably, intimate behaviour between young teenage boys and girls in public has become more common. They are not only offending and embarrassing the others but also humiliating themselves. In my opinion, parents and teachers should inculcate correct concepts into their minds to let them know what they should do or what they should not do in public.

As for the love affairs of teenagers, many people think that they start their love affairs too early as they are not mature enough. In fact, the fact that they are young doesn't

mean they are immature. A lot of youngsters are more mature and thoughtful than their parents and teachers think. Besides, if they can strike a balance between their studies and romance, starting a love affair will not affect their studies a lot. For example, a friend of my mother has two children, both of them started dating and developed romance when they were fifteen. The two of them knew how to strike a balance so they could concentrate on their studies. Ultimately, they were enrolled in their favourite universities. So it is not bad to start a love affair when they were teenagers if they can handle it maturely. In addition, they can learn a lot from the relationship and it could be a great experience in life.

Regarding the suggestion made by P. So that parents should not allow their teenage children to start dating before they are 18, I cannot agree with it. It is not feasible to forbid teenagers from starting a date. It will not work and it may cause conflicts. Parents should discuss with their children the advantages and disadvantages of starting a relationship and help them to handle it when they have a problem.

In conclusion, teenagers should control their behaviour in

the public places and parents should not stop their children from dating. There are positive influences of a relationship, for example, teenagers can learn to solve interpersonal problems. Of course, their studies are still the premise. They must strike a balance between studies and romance.

Yours faithfully,

T. Lam

T. Lam

4B Ku Ho Fung (4)

Letter to the Editor – Mainland Visitors

Dear Sir,

In recent years, anger has increased among Hong Kong citizens towards the rising number of mainland visitors coming to Hong Kong each day and problems caused by them. The Individual Travel Scheme was launched in 2003 in order to boost the economy of Hong Kong after SARS. While the government hails the economic benefits generated by mainland visitors, different drawbacks are arising from the scheme. I would like to express my concern about the problems caused by the mainlanders.

Hong Kong is a very small city and there are physical constraints when the individual travel scheme now allows 270 million residents of 49 mainland cities to visit Hong Kong. The Hong Kong Tourism Board has estimated that 38 million mainland visitors would visit Hong Kong this year. The city is becoming more crowded and Hongkongers' lives are affected. Apart from Mong kok, Tsim Sha Tsui and Causeway Bay, Tsuen Wan, Tai Po and Sha Tin are also packed with mainland tourists. Is there any place

Hongkongers can go over the weekends and holidays? Mainland visitors are everywhere. In addition, the enormous number of tourists bring pressure in all fields, such as traffic, accommodation, catering and recreational facilities. It is apparent that the city has almost exceeded its load.

Moreover, lots of mainlanders on individual travel permits take part in cross-border parallel-good trading activities which are illicit and cause the deficiency of some daily commodities like milk powder.

These problems result in the grievance of many Hongkongers. Let us see what the government can do.

To solve the root of the problem, the government needs long-term planning for tourism and get back the right of approval since the situation now is that only the mainland has the right to approve the entry permits. With the right of immigration approval the government can control the number of mainland visitors. Besides, the government should limit the amount of daily necessities such as food, milk powder and shampoo, etc. A traveler can take across

the border to combat the cross-border parallel-goods trading activities.

In conclusion, the government should get back the rights of approval of mainland individual travelers and limit the amount of daily goods they carry across the border. I hope that this letter can raise the public awareness of the problems caused by the large amount of mainland visitors for the city.

Yours faithfully,
Chris Wong

5B Chan Mei Hung Janice

Stop,domestic violence!

There has been much concern recently about the tragedies of domestic violence in Tin Shui Wai. Parents killing their children themselves at times hits the headline and saddens the whole society. It is horrible news in Hong Kong.

The definition of the domestic violence is the act of trying to control the other family members by force. It is immoral and illegal. The problem of domestic violence has worsened over the past few years in Hong Kong. There were 47 cases of murder in 2009.More than half of them were related to domestic violence. According to the Central Information System of the Social Welfare Department, the number of newly reported domestic violence (include child abuse and spouse battering) cases has significantly increased by one-third from 3993 in 2004 to 5800 in 2009.

In the following parts of this article, I will discuss about the reasons why the domestic violence has worsened over the past few years in Hong Kong. Also, suggestions will be given for solving the problem.

Let's talk about the reasons first. The first one is many of those living in the districts are migrants from the Mainland. Often,they are the wives of Hong Kong residents and generally much younger than their spouses. Therefore, the age gap has been at the root of the domestic violence. Moreover, there is not enough counseling service or support for people in the community especially in new towns like Tin Shui Wai and Kwun Tong.

The other reason is domestic violence may occur when one partner feels the need to dominate the other. Feeling academically and socially inferior to their partner, abusers may resort to violence because of low self-esteem, extreme jealousy, difficulties in regulating anger and having other strong emotions.

How can we solve the problem? We can talk about understanding different points of views, such as individuals, social workers and the government.

For individuals, we should encourage the victims in domestic violence not to tolerate the abusers. Also, if we are

the neighbours of the domestic violence victims, we should take care and console them regularly .For example, we can go to the community centre and do some volunteer works, like helping them channel their pessimistic emotions. Therefore, we can help them develop a new life through taking care of and consoling them.

The social workers should organize more talks about family education which teach the family members how to ease their conflicts in life. Moreover, the police, the hospital staff and the social workers can share their information they have about the patients so that they can see a clearer picture, make a correct assessment and take action accordingly. For example, they can talk to the victim and his/her spouse about the problem.

The government should take preventive and effective measures in domestic violence. Moreover, a holistic and inter-agency approach should be applied.

In conclusion, to prevent the domestic violence from occurring, everyone has to share the responsibilities.

5B Hui Sze Tung Daphne (27)

Domestic violence

Domestic violence, which takes the form of emotional, physical or sexual abuse, has stirred up much controversy in Hong Kong recently. According to the Central Information System of the Social Welfare Department, the number of newly reported domestic violence cases increased by one-third from 3993 in 2004 to 5800 in 2009. The situation is so desperate that we should take prompt action, but before that, we should know the main factors that cause the problem.

Firstly, the problems of domestic violence can be attributed to financial problem. More people live below the poverty line after the financial crises in 1997 and 2008. Inflation, unemployment and those problems they are facing cause them stress. Therefore, they may easily resort to violence because of difficulties in the regulation of pressure.

Secondly, people work day and night owing to the rapid economic change. It has undermined family solidarity

because people have no leisure time to spend with their family members. Hence, misapprehension would happen and it results in an increase in domestic violence.

Thirdly, there are not enough counseling services or support for people, especially in new towns like Tin Shui Wai. Signs of domestic violence may not be detected and reported. Also, victims of domestic violence are unable to seek help from the related parties.

After outlining the possible reasons of domestic violence, we should now focus on how to address the problem. The followings are some suggestions.

First and foremost, victims should be aware of the abusers' mental illness symptoms. Experts said that people who suffer from stress are less likely to control their violent impulses. Victims should be sensitive to the early signs of domestic violence, and report to the related parties as soon as possible.

Apart from victims' awareness, social workers should organise more talks on prevention and remedial works.

Education is a feasible tool to solve the domestic problem. Through education, people may learn who they can turn to when they face this problem.

Last but not least, the government should shoulder the responsibility for the increasing number of domestic violence cases. More resources should be put to support charities. The government has to place more counseling service centres in new towns like Tin Shui Wai, so that the victims can seek help from social workers easily.

To conclude, domestic violence is caused by financial problems, economic change and the lack of counseling services. The only way to address the problem is the cooperation between different parties in the community.

5B Hui Sze Tung Daphne (27)

Speech - Green Initiative

Good morning everyone. Nowadays, it is easy to see people using smartphones on the streets. In fact, not only smart phones, but also tablet computers, ebooks and game machines. Owing to the rapid advancement of technology, people change their technological products frequently and irrationally. No doubt, this is an unnecessary waste. When someone changes his mobile phone to a new model, his only purpose is to be more fashionable. However, he has no idea of the impact of technological progess on societies in the developing world, which will be mentioned in the following text.

Environmentally, technological garbage dumps will cause land pollution. Unlike us, the main source of land pollution in the developing world comes from electronic waste, rather than littering or other kinds of waste. Another concern is toxic waste. A report conducted by some environmental organizations shows that 50 to 80 percent of electronics waste collected for recycling in the United States is sent to China, India, Pakistan or the other developing

countries, where the waste is reused or recycled under largely unregulated conditions, often with toxic results. Toxic waste can cause death, injury or birth defects to living creatures. The consequence is serious.

In education, children in developing countries scavenge dumps for things to sell and it would cause a vicious cycle of poverty. Children are out on rubbish dumps instead of studying in school. It may satisfy their short-term financial demand, but in the long-term, they would soon fall to a poverty trap due to no or limited academic qualification or knowledge. As it is well known, children are the future pillars of the nations. Whether those countries' financial situation would be better or not, is based on them. How can those countries escape from poverty without knowledgeable citizens?

Briefly speaking, technological progress in the developed world has negative effects on societies in the developing world. After going through the environmental and educational problems that might be caused, I sincerely ask for your immediate action. If your mobile phones or even televisions are still in working order, why don't you just

keep using them instead of changing them to a new model? Be considerate to your wallets. Besides, putting yourselves into other people's shoes is the main point. This is the end of my presentation. Thank you for your listening!

5B Wong Chun Hei Heidi (36)

A Letter to a friend ----discuss the disadvantages of buying an essay from the Internet

Dear Pat,

How are you getting on? I heard that you are going to submit an English assignment at the end of the week. However, you said you didn't want to do this and decided to buy an essay from the Internet. I really don't think that is a good way of doing your assignment.

Firstly, buying an essay on the Internet is cheating and it will affect your academic future. I know you always don't put much effort into your schoolwork because you are focusing on Visual Arts. As you have told me before, you want to go to the university and study arts used on the Internet. Don't you feel embarrassed? Honestly, if you want to go to the university, you will need a good result in English. I think doing your assignment is a good chance for you to have preparation before the exams.

Furthermore, the essays which you buy from the Internet may not fit the requirements of your assignment. As a result,

your teacher will ask you to do it again. Finally, you still need to do it by yourself. Then, why don't you take this as a chance to practise for the exam? 'Practice makes perfect!' I am sure if you try more, your English will be improved. Then you can have a good academic result.

As I know the assignment is writing a review of a poem. Poems are interesting and it is a good way for you to improve your English. Poetry enables you to develop your speaking skills as poems are meant to be read out aloud. If you find it hard to understand the underlying theme and tone of a poem, don't worry! This challenge in encountered by almost every new learner of poetry. I suggest that you don't need to worry too much because you will learn more about how to get the theme through from your teacher. Slowly but surely as you will understand and appreciate poems better.

When you don't know how to do your assignment, you can ask the teacher. I am sure she will be glad to answer your questions. Moreover, you can ask me too! I will try my best to help you. It is never too late to learn.

Buying on essay from the Internet is really not a good idea. Well, I hope my advice can give you loads of inspirations and you can try to do the review. Don't worry. I know you can finish it! I look forward to hearing from you.

Regard,

Chris

5C Wong Hoi Chung Wilfrid (16)

Using Connectives - My Unlucky Day

Last Sunday was a sunny day. Jack and his friends went to the country park. **Before** they arrived at the park, two challenges were waiting for them.

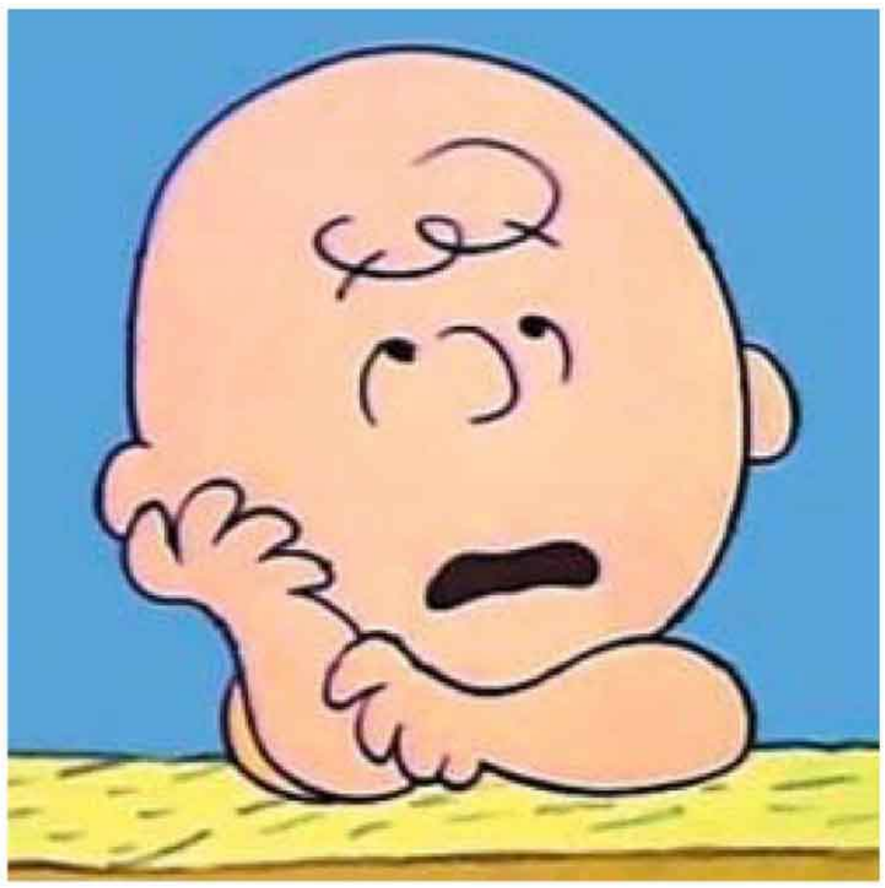
First, they went to the top of a mountain. **In front of** was a suspension bridge. **Under the suspension bridge** was a cliff. **Later,** they crossed the bridge successfully.

Second, they needed to cross a tunnel. There was a river in front of it. Fierce crocodiles were swimming blissfully in it and they had attacked many people before. They crossed the river as fast as they could. **Unfortunately,** Jack was bitten by a crocodile. He repeatedly screamed for help. His friends did not know what to do. One of them suddenly found his mobile phone and called the Fisheries and Conservation Department to catch the crocodile. **In a minute or so**, the experts arrived and caught the crocodile successfully. Jack was sent to hospital.

On their way, there was a thunderstorm. They all got wet.

When they arrived at the hospital, the doctor told Jack's friends that he was fine. The crocodile did not hurt him. His pain was due to food poisoning! **For this reason,** he needed to stay in the hospital for one day to have a medical examination.

Back home they heard a terrible news story. A supernova was falling down to the earth. It was going to be the end of the world! **Fortunately,** it turned out to be another joke from the ATV. What a terrible day for this group of youths!



5C Wong Hoi Chung Wilfrid (16)

A Night At School

It was a quiet, windy night. Johnny, Susan and William had an adventure in their school. They bought a torch, a first-aid kid and a bottle of water. Susan was frightened and worried about the ghosts. They walked along the corridor and they wanted to finish the adventure as soon as they could.

At 8:00 pm, they heard some noise in the Student Activity Centre. Susan screamed, 'Oh! It was a skeleton. The skeleton was playing the piano.' They ran as fast as they could. Suddenly, Johnny could not find Susan. She was lost! They kept looking for her for ten minutes but in vain.

'Help!' They heard a terrible scream. They ran towards the sound and eventually found Susan beside the piano. Her clothes were torn and her body was covered in blood. Johnny and William woke her up, gave her their clothes, and asked what had happened to her.

After panting for a few minutes, Susan began to tell her story. She was attacked by the skeleton and it cut off her

head with an axe!　Johnny and William were shocked. They felt a chill at their backs. All of a sudden, Susan looked at them with a cunning smile. 'If you don't believe me, here's my head,' Susan said while putting the head on her knees. They boys could not stand anymore! They felt dizzy and finally fainted.

The next day, the police found the body of Susan and sent the two boys to hospital.

Since then, the school closed and no one dared to mention the case again. It is now still a mystery of the town.

5C Wong Hoi Chung Wilfrid (16)

How to address the problem of young people smoking

The issue of young people smoking (not smoke!) has become the talk of the town in Hong Kong these days. In this essay, I will discuss the causes of young people smoking, the undesirable consequences caused by smoking and the best ways to address the problem.

Firstly, many young people smoke because of peer pressure. Many young people think that their friends smoke and they must follow. They cannot stay away from the cigarettes because their friends will think that they are not 'friends'. Secondly, smoking is a trend in Hong Kong. Many people smoke in this society. Thirdly, young people are under a lot of stress of the school work. They have much homework or tests every day. Some may smoke to relief their stress. These are the reasons for young people smoking.

However, the harmful effects of smoking are terrible. It will lead to a wide range of illnesses including lung cancer, heart disease, and breathing problems. It also wastes a lot of

medical resources.

Yet, how can we put this social vice under control?

First of all, the school should organize some talks or carnivals which are about anti-smoking. The school teachers should help students develop a healthy attitude and stay away from cigarettes.

Also, the government should advertise the anti-smoking message on TV, making the young people to be aware of the danger of smoking.

From the above discussion, it is clear there are several ways for different parties to help young people learn how to stay away from cigarettes. I hope the youth can be aware that smoking is a bad habit and also dangerous for our health. Let's fight against smoking and cooperate with the government to spread the anti-smoking message!

6A Wan Kin Shan Andy (29)

Put a Halt to Child Abuse

Chris seems to be a normal primary schoolchild. However, he wears long sleeved shirts and long trousers in the hot summer. Even when the temperatures reach record highs, he never takes off his clothing because he is trying hard to hide his bruises and wounds. His arms and legs show this already. Here in Hong Kong, alongside Chris are numerous counterparts in the same terrible situation. This rising tide of child abuse is sweeping across the city.

The name "Child abuse" means the physical, emotional or sexual abuse or neglect of children by parents or others. Nowadays, the dire cases of child abuse by parents are not unfamiliar as we can hear them on a daily basis. For instance, some parents may leave their children unattended at home for a long time while some may punish their children, not giving food to them. In some worst case scenarios, some children may even be ruthlessly battered and starved. Therefore, such children always have scars lack on their skin and body. It is traditionally believed that parents should unconditionally love their children but the

number of child abuse cases will increase quickly.

The main reasons why parents batter their children are hectic lifestyles, lack of parental skills and high divorce rates. Though the economy of Hong Kong is now thriving and the policy of a five-day working week has already been introduced, people still work overtime on weekdays to ensure that they can maintain a high standard of living. Parents may not have any time to take good care of their children. Therefore, domestic helpers take up their parents' rotes. As a result, parents lack the parental skills which they are meant to possess. The other dreadful situation is high divorce rates. Single parent families have to bear a heavy burden and they always live under great pressure. The children in such families will become prone to abuse as parents may vent their temper and pressure on their children. These lifestyles form a vicious circle and these situations keep deteriorating.

The gravity of this problem shows the urgent need for more tangible steps to protect potential victims and deal with the root causes.

The government should take the lead in combating child abuse. Child abuse should be a priority for Legislative Council. For example, the government should examine cases and the complicated factors contributing to the hardship of children in poor families with regard to the mental health of these children.

The government has a fiscal surplus of tens of billions of dollars now, more resources should be allocated to social welfare.

The Social Welfare Department can employ more social workers to follow up cases of child abuse. Social workers should receive extra training in handling child abuse cases so that they can report any suspicious cases as quickly as possible.

Last but on no account least, instead of neglecting and beating children hard, parents should reconsider their roles as parents, that is, to care and love. The old way of teaching children is not applicable to today's world. Parents should talk more with their children. Only by so doing can parent-child relationships be improved.

As the old adage goes, “Time and tide wait for no man”. Undoubtedly, the problem can in no way be solved overnight. However, with concerted efforts social welfare authorities and the government, the tide of child abuse can surely stop in the future.

Acrostic Poems – 4A

Introspection - Natalie Wan

In life there are lots of blemishes
Nothing is perfect
Through your old age
Regretting the passage of time
Only haggling over how much you strive
Still you can't enjoy your life
Past is reflecting on yourself
Every time you think of your past
Change the angle
Trying to learn form your mistakes
Introspection is the only way possible
Overcome the trouble
New life comes out of the rainbows

Physics – Chau Yat Yin

Personally, I don't like it very much

Hard to learn and understand

Y do we need to memorize so many definitions?

Sketch the free-body diagram is the fist step for doing force equation

Impulse is the change of momentum

Component is the split force of the original one

Score below ten will copy the test till the end

Cathy – Cathy Cheng

Cat is my favorite pet

Always hopping blissfully

Take photos beautifully

Have a nice day, bravo!

You know, I am faithful

Tony – Tony Sun

Trees are dying

Only a few left

No one can help?

You can give a hand

Ivan – Ivan Chan

I don't like to wait
Victory - I hate
Amazing fate
Now follow my own way

DAWN – Dawn Wong

Demons are following me
Angels are flying around me
What are they murmuring?
Never mind – I am what I want to be

Knowledge – Chow Yik Lun

Keep reminding yourself
Nothing can change your determination
Oh, it's time to take action
Whenever and whoever
Learning English is everywhere
Encouragement is the key
Do more exercise before the lesson
Genius is one percent inspiration and ninety-nine percent
perspiration
Enjoy your English lesson

Chung – Cheng Tsz Cheung

Chasing after the dream and ready to start anew

Hearing the voice your self-will

Umbrellas? no need as there is always good weather

Never say never

Grey sky is the playground to endeavor

Champion – A Tribute to Ferguson of Manchester United

By Jeffy Wong

Controlled all situations they met

Heroic trophies they got

A legendary manager in there for 25 years

Many opponents burst into tears

Potential players are always

In this greatest team

On the stage of football pitch

No one can compare with him

Ethan – Ethan Shek

Everyone listens to me
The world belongs to me
Hey young bubbies
All are controlled by me
Never try to challenge me

Juliana – A Dream

Just a little bit crazy
Unfortunately I am not that easy
Let me lie for a while
Imagine the power of crystal
Agony is best way to remember
Nothing is forever
A little dream of Juliana

Jason – Lim Ho Hung

Jason is my name
Always smiles but
Sometimes without an aim
Only difficulty is my destiny
Nothing is impossible for me

CASSIOPEIA (The official fans club of TOHOSHINKI)

By Crystal Chan

Come on and watch their wonderful live show
A famous Korean male group called Tohoshinki
So talented are their singing and dancing
So many prizes they have got
I can see sweats on their faces
Oh! Handsome as they are
Prince is the best word to describe them
Everyone enjoys this beautiful event
I am so proud of them
A little tribute to my beloved band

1B Drama - The Vegetable Girl

Casting

1. Voice over: Katie Wong
2. Little Vegetable girl: Tessica
3. Customer: Ashley
4. Dad: Cherry
5. Angel: Daphna

Voice over	On a cold New Year's Eve, a poor girl tires to sell Pak Choi in the street.
Vegetable girl	Do you think my pak choi is tasty?
Customer	I don't think so. Because they're not fresh. Look, they have been dead for ages!
Vegetable girl	(sadly) Never mind. It's ok.
Voice over	She is freezing but she is afraid of going home because her father will beat her for not selling any pak choi.
Dad	You are a stupid girl. Get out and don't come back – forever!
Vegetable girl	(crying) I must return to the market and sell all the vegetables.
Voice over	In the market, an old lady is waiting for the vegetable girl.
Angel	Oh, little Pak Choi, I am hungry. Can you

	give me something to eat?
Vegetable girl	Sure. Take all my vegetables. I don't need them any more.
Angel	You're so kind. I am an angel. This is what you should get.
Voice over	The little girl looks at her basket. All the vegetables become GOLD
Angel	You are a good girl and you have a heart of gold.

I have a heart of gold

1C Drama – Phone Call at Classroom

1C Kwok Chun Kit (6)

1C Chan Pui Ying (18)

1C Chan Yi San (20)

1C Ng Cheuk Kei (28)

Aside/ Voice over	It is a sunny day. In 1C, there is a boy Ringo, he is …Oop…sorry…he WAS a GOOD student, one day.....
Teacher	Today I will teach you how to use the past tense. First……
Aside	Suddenly, Ringo's phone is ringing!! (emphasize)
Teacher	What sound??
Ringo	Hi, Mary! OK, OK, bye!!
Aside	All classmates are looking at Ringo.....
Teacher	What are you doing, Ringo??
Ringo	Huh? ... 0h! Sorry! Sorry! (panic)
Teacher	Ringo, why do you take the mobile phone to school?(annoyed)
Ringo	It is because my father told me to call him at school, you know, he is in hospital…very ill…

Teacher	Very well. Then, your father must be called Mary! (angrily)
Ringo	Oh dear! I ... because .....(scared)
Teacher	Do you want to tell the truth now?
Ringo	The truth is…the truth is…oh yes, my mother is in hospital. And her name is Mary
Teacher	Then, who is the lady waiting for you in the office?
Ringo	OH NO, my mom!!!

Distract = disturb, making you unable to pay attention

Editorial Board: The English Department
Cheng Chek Chee Secondary School
September 2013