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## Foreword

Writing Club continues to find its place in promoting English Writing. Knowing that writing is no easy job for any students, we select interesting topics and achievable tasks in a bid to motivate them to write. Through creative stories, sharing of school experience, and discussions about social issues, we encourage students to express their genuine thoughts and opinions freely, and at the same time, we develop their creativity, strengthen their logical and critical thinking, and extend their life experiences with the world around them. Students are then able to practise English writing meaningfully and find fun in it.

Holding firm our belief of publishing writings of students from each class as an appreciation of their efforts, we hope that students not only see regular writing practices as a laborious job, but an immensely rewarding learning experience. And if this little booklet receives feedback from its readers, it would definitely inspire students' confidence in writing their minds for our publications to come!

The English Department

1A Ng Wing Tat, Bobby

An unforgettable experience

5-11-12

Monday

Sunny

Dear Diary,

In August 2003, my mother was in St. Mary's hospital on Hong Kong Island, where she gave birth to my little brother called Ng Wai Tat (Billy). He was so cute and he looked like a smart, clever boy.

One day, my mother went out to buy something, so I took care of my little brother. In the morning, I called my little brother to wake up and then I cooked him breakfast. After breakfast, I played with him.

In the afternoon, my brother was sleeping and I had lunch. After a while, I did my homework and played computer games, read comics, and washed the tableware.

At night, I asked my mother to look after my little brother and then I knew our relationship greatly improved after this time together.

Today was an unforgettable experience.

1A Sun Ching, Samuel

Best school ever

Have you ever been to a school in space? Or should I say have you ever been to SPACE? Well, my dream school is in space. It is on a man-made planet and the planet has lots of trees, flowers, animals... just the same as the Earth. It also has a man-made sun and moon. So basically, everything is man-made. It is a boarding school and the school has all the facilities that most school has but the place that I love is the "Tree House". It is a library in a huge tree and also a garden in the "Tree House". The color of the school is different every day, and the shape transforms every day. So today, the color is black and the shape is like a tall tower.

The campus and the school are so far away. How can the students go to school? No worry, the school created a new kind of transport. It is called the Under-Ground Transport, UGT in short, but because it is really uncomfortable. So the school created another transport called the Floating Train, FTN in short. I like the FTN more because it is more comfortable and I can enjoy the view through the window, but still, the UGT is faster than the FTN.

On the first day of school, I took the UGT. It was “fine”. Just that I got a bit dizzy and I vomited a bit. Then I had Chinese class which was quite interesting because the lesson was full of ice-breaking games. The teacher told me and my classmates to write our names on the blackboard and introduce ourselves, but I realize I’m the only one with two words in my name among all of us.

The second lesson was English class, I had talked to a guy called “Peter”, he’s the first guy I’ve talked to when I came into the school. Then Peter and I went to the tuck shop to buy some refreshments.

Then we had Mathematics and Liberal Studies. The lessons were quite similar to those on Earth. Then it was lunch break and I had some German Sausage and French bread just the way I liked. I also had milk-shake and mango pudding for dessert. The canteen was on the ground floor next to the school hall. We paid everything with a card which is like the “Octopus Card” on Earth.

We went back to the campus because we needed to get our room keys and rest for a while. So I got my key and carried my luggage up to my room. I didn’t need to walk or move because there were those floating boards. So you just stepped on the board and named your destination then you could get there in no-time. Suddenly, I found out my roommate was Peter. So now we could learn about each other more every day.

At last, we had dinner in our room; it was awesome that you didn’t need to get the food from downstairs; the food came up to you! I had pasta for dinner and a cup of English tea to go with my cheese. Before I slept, I ordered a cup of hot chocolate, just because I wanted to taste it.

Well, after reading this passage, you might want to join me with this kind of school life in space. Well, what are you waiting for? Join now before it’s too late!



### The best school in my life

My name is Victoria, I'm twelve years old. I live in Wan Chai. I like swimming and reading. I don't have any siblings. Talking about my life, I have to mention my new school to you.

Have you even been to a Magical School? I have, let me introduce my new school now. When you read my introduction, you may think it is amazing and interesting as well.

It is the first day in the Magical School "Lee Lai Fa". It is huge and there are many school clubs which we can join. When I go into the school gate, I see there are a lot of pictures moving and the stairs go to different directions. Wow! It's amazing! After that, I go to the exclusive magical potions room, there are many different kinds of bottles with something in it, such as transfiguration water and lucky water. And my favourite one is the lucky water; I think it can bring me luck every day.

In this school, every year, there is also a test on flying with a broom, it is exciting. Everyone has a broom on their hands and has to master it before the test comes. In the school, we have some very interesting places, such as the emotion pool, we can use our own wand to draw out our sadness, then we say the incantation and our sorrowful emotion could be removed. It is useful for me because I had experienced sad things in my Primary Four and the hard feelings now disappeared, you will never have that feeling of sadness again. Maybe you think it is horrible, but it's not.

I have met many new friends too. My best friend is Eva. She is funny, sporty and smart. Her father has been to the magical school too, her father was also a talented man and he was good at flying. When he was young, her father took part in every competition eagerly and won many games. I think Eva is like her father in such a way. Eva often goes to the library to read books on magic. We help and learn from each other.

It is an exciting school but it could be dangerous, there are many amazing things that I have never seen before and anything could happen to you. I think I will have a great start in my new school and learn many magic tricks.

### Mother's Day

Today is Mother's Day. I wanted to give a surprise to my mother, so I got up early to help my mum to cook breakfast. I made an egg sandwich and a cup of milk tea for my mum. Mum was so surprised because I could cook! She said, 'I like your sandwich and the milk tea. Thank you, my dear!' In the evening, we went to the Peak. We watched the sunset. It was very beautiful. It was like a salted egg yolk. Before going to bed, I gave a Mother's Day card to my mum.

Today I had a happy day.

### A Two-day Hong Kong Tour

Welcome to Hong Kong. Hong Kong is a city full of fun and energy. You can find all kinds of food in Hong Kong. Shopping is the activity that you should not miss as Hong Kong is the well-known 'shopping paradise'. Here is our two-day itinerary.

#### Day1

In the morning, I will go to the Peak. First, we will visit the museums. You can see the wax models of the famous people. Then, we can go to the souvenir shop to buy some souvenirs of Hong Kong.

In the afternoon, we will go to a Chinese restaurant to eat traditional dim sum. They are very yummy. You must try the dumplings and you would love it. After that, we can see the beautiful scenery of Hong Kong from the Peak. It is one of the most beautiful scenery in the world. Then we will ride the Peak tram to the Central. This is the end of Day 1.

#### Day2

In the morning, we will go to the Ocean Park. Ocean Park is famous for its exciting rides. It attracts millions tourists every year. You can also try the cable car and watch the beautiful beach of Hong Kong.

In the afternoon, we can visit the fish aquarium. Ocean Park has one of the biggest aquariums in the world. You can see different kinds of fish and even jellyfish! At night, we will take bus number 629 back to Admiralty.

This is the itinerary of a wonderful two-day trip in Hong Kong.

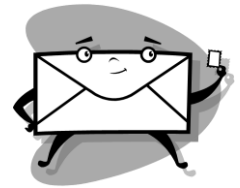
1D Chua Wai Yui, Winston

### The festival I like

There are many festivals in Hong Kong. Out of these festivals, I like Chinese New Year most. This is because I can get some red packet money and watch the exciting lion dance and spectacular fireworks.

The Chinese New Year starts on 1<sup>st</sup> January of the lunar calendar. On the New Year Eve, we have reunion dinner. This is the most important dinner in a year. Every family member will have the dinner together. In Chinese New Year, I usually meet my relatives. They give me some red packet money. I am very happy with that. During the New Year, everyone wears new clothes and greet each other. There are many different traditional Chinese food. Among these foods, I like the New Year cake most. It is very sticky.

On the second day of the New Year, I go to see the fireworks in the Victoria Harbour with my family. They are amazing. I take a lot of photos.



2A Chau Lok Yin, Matthew

### Giving advice about arts activities

Dear Jo,

Thanks for your email. I'm glad to know you will have a job interview at Hong Kong Museum of Art and visit me in Hong Kong. As you mentioned that you wanted to do some arts activities while in Hong Kong, here I'm going to give you some suggestions.

The first event is a sculpture exhibition. The sculptures of famous artists Hilbert John and Michael Wilson from the States and Spain will also come to Hong Kong. There will be over ten thousand sculptures shown! This event will be held from 27<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> August at Asia World Expo, and the fee is eighty dollars.

The second art event is an eye-opener talk. The talk is held by the Hong Kong Art Museum which will invite the local professor Mr. Chan Hui Chi as the guest speaker. The talk will be held on 28<sup>th</sup> August from 7 to 9pm. It's free of charge.

If you like my recommendation, just let me know so that I can get the tickets. Write soon!

Chris

### How to prevent from being a computer addict?

At present many teenagers are computer addicts. Here I would like to share my view on it. There are actually many preventive measures for us to follow. First, we can make a timetable to manage our time. We can make our timetable with our parents so that they know what we do every day. Second, we can set a password in our computer. If we want to use computer, we need to ask our parents to log in for us, so they can monitor us. We also need to communicate more with our parents; let them know our purpose of using the computer.

The most effective way of preventing ourselves from being a computer addict is having self-control. We should always govern our time and ways of using it. I hope readers of this sharing can try the methods I recommend and be a wise computer user. Don't let computer control our life.



### Secret relationship

The show was over. Under the cloudless sky, I was walking home in the street. Suddenly, a little dog hit my feet. I liked it and it also liked me very much. It started to follow me and wagged its tail, so I squatted down to play with it. There came a beautiful girl wearing sunglasses. She was a pop star! She lost the little dog. I picked up the puppy and gave it back to her. She accidentally touched my hand. I liked her, and the girl loved me, too.

The girl and I started dating. Once, a reporter photographed us when we were having dinner at a restaurant. We paid the bill and ran away quickly. We didn't want other people to know, so we developed underground love. We tried to keep it a secret. From then on, we only meet at her home. We play with her dog and I feel it's romantic!



2B Che Wai Yan, Stephy

Recommending a film, Toy Story 3, to my friend

21<sup>st</sup> November

Dear Adam,

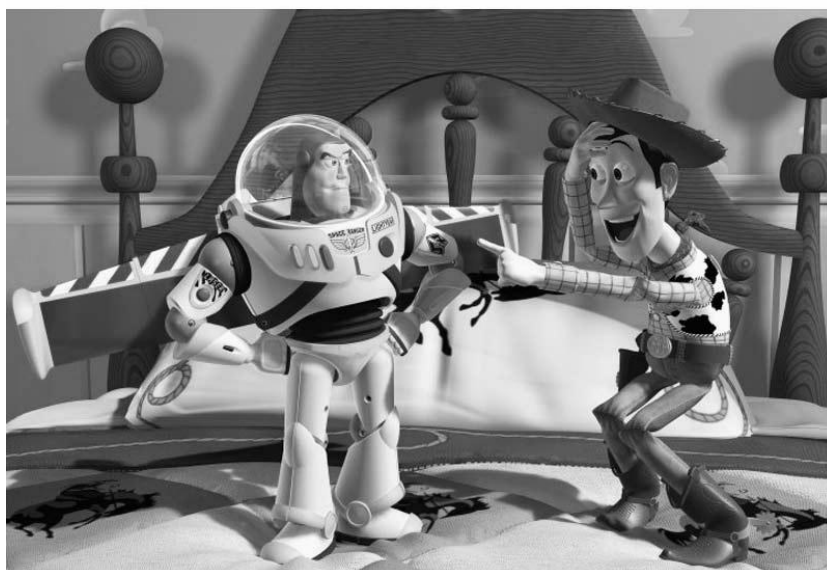
It's always good to hear from you. How's everything?

I've recently watched a film called Toy Story 3. The story is about toys. The setting is that Andy has grown up. He doesn't want to play with toys anymore, but Andy doesn't want to throw the toys away, so he put them in the attic, but his mother misunderstands that he wants to throw the toys away, so she sends them to Sunnyside Daycare Centre. The toys meet Lots-O-Huggin Bear. The bear is the leader. He is a bad bear, so he throws the toys to the truck and the truck brings them to the dumpster, which takes them to an incinerator. Luckily, some Aliens help them. Finally, Andy brings the toys back home and gives them to his cousin, Bonnie.

The film tells us that we should treasure friendship. I like it very much. I'm going to watch another Disney film. Do you want to join?

Write back soon!

Best wishes  
Charles



A reply email to cousin Jo

From: Chris  
To: Jo  
Date: 10<sup>th</sup> August, 2012 14:55  
Subject: Re: Big News

Dear Jo,

I'm very glad to hear that you will come to Hong Kong on 28<sup>th</sup> August for an interview of a job at the Hong Kong Museum of Art. It's a great chance for us to meet. I've found some information as follows:

The first one is the Central walking tour. We will go to St. John's Cathedral. It's one of the oldest churches in Hong Kong. It was built in the shape of a cross with an impressive bell tower. Then, we will go to Central Police Station. It's one of the most famous historic buildings in Hong Kong and a mixture of Western and Chinese building styles. The last stop will be art galleries on Hollywood Road. It includes modern arts and Chinese antiques, for example, furniture and jewellery. The time will be from 10:00 a.m. to 12:55 p.m. The date will be from 18<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> August.

I found two advertisements for art activities that you and I can join. The first one is called 'Art Jamming'. No art skills are required. Let's have fun creating our masterpieces! It has a great painting party in Picasso Art Studio. The studio's opening time is from 1:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The second one is called 'City Images'. It looks at the people in Hong Kong through the lens of local photographers such as Sam Wong. It opens from 16<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> August. We can go to Hong Kong Arts Centre. Which one will you choose?

I hope the above information can help you to decide what to do in Hong Kong. I look forward to seeing you soon.

Yours,  
Chris



2C Ng Wing Yiu, YoYo

### Meeting a pop star

It was a breezy night in Autumn. I was walking in the park. The sky was cloudless and there were dried leaves on the ground.

Suddenly, a little dog ran toward me. The little dog was bump and cute. 'Why are you here?' I asked the dog.

I squatted down and patted the little dog. I saw a woman. She wore sunglasses. She was a pop star. 'What are you doing now?' she said. Actually, she was the owner of the dog.

A while later, the girl said 'thank you' to me. I felt very happy because I saw the pop star in the park. I hope I can see her again.

2D Tse Ming Him, Anson

### A film review on *Footloose*

The story sets in a town called Bomont. A Boston teen Ren Maclormark moved to a small town, Bomont to live with his Uncle Wes.

Bomont is a town where dancing and dance music are banned. Reverend Shaw Moore bans music and dance because of an accident that killed four teens including his son. Bobby Ren falls in love with Ariel. In a count meeting, Ren requested all teens to dance again. Finally, all the teen can dance again.

The film stars Dennis Quaid as Shaw Moore. Shaw (Dennis Quaid) is good at acting. He speaks meaningful words which are inspiring.

Willard (Miles Teller) is cute and funny. His dance is awesome. My favourite part is the last dance. All teens are very happy. It is a musical film that everyone loves. I would recommend this movie to all my friends because my friends like music and dance and they would feel that the music is so cool.

### My 99 days in the wild with Stephen

99 days ago, I was living on Happy Island, an island that nobody knew. Before that, I was having a boat trip with my dear dog, Stephen. It was a rainy day that day but we didn't lose our relaxed mood. Suddenly, we heard thunder and felt huge wind, and the sky cried deeply. My boat swung and swung. Stephen and I couldn't sit properly. Also the giant ship behind us sank! 'We are so lucky, Stephen!' I said. Our boat didn't sink.

After the sky stopped crying, we lost our direction and didn't know where we were. I rowed and rowed. I saw an island! I rowed my boat to the island and wanted to take a rest there. When we arrived, I napped for a while. 'Woof, woof,' my dog barked and I saw he had caught a huge fish! I tried to find some wood and set a fire. Setting a fire was not as easy as we imagined. It's really difficult, but lastly I did it! It was the first time I cooked with fire set by wood. The fish was delicious – it's the original taste of sea fish. Stephen and I were full and we started to make a house with wood. I found some apple wood, and they smelt awesome! After all these, it's time to sleep! It was the most tiring day in my life.

Day after day, Stephen and I ate seafood and coconuts from coconut trees every day, until one day...

Stephen and I saw a lot of barbarians hacking a man who looked scared. I hid myself in the grassland immediately. I felt it was so pitiful and so did Stephen! The barbarians hacked the man because the man was sick and didn't work that day. The barbarians wanted to kill him. I ran out from the grassland with Stephen and told them they were wrong.

After that, the barbarians asked me a lot of questions. We knew each other and became friends! We exchanged knowledge and they gave me a lot of their traditional food. Also, they loved to hand-make accessories. I learnt a lot from them! I appreciated their passion of making many pretty cool accessories, so I decided to invite them to work in my company.

We made a boat and went back to the USA together yesterday. I started to tell people more about this city – Washington, and told them they should be in HARMONY with everyone.

99 days passed. I learnt a lot and I quite treasure the time I had on the island, an island that I had never been to. The taste of being there was quite bitter, quite difficult. But I have changed my lifestyle – I have become an **environmentally friendly** person!

A film review

*The Fantastic Flying Books of Mr Morris Lessmore*

★★★★★

The film *The Fantastic Flying Books of Mr Morris Lessmore* is directed by William Joyce and Brandon Oldenburg. It is produced by Moonbot Studios.

The story is about a writer. He is writing his book when a storm blows him to another place. At there, people get lost and have lost their families and faith. The words fly out of the writer's book and he turns from colourful to black and white. Then he sees a girl flying in the sky with books but he can't fly. After that, a little 'egg man' inside one of the books brings the man to a library. The books there have lives. The man reads the books there every day. He reads about the authors' experiences. Gradually, he feels cheerful and gets back his faith. He is not black and white anymore. He continues to write his book. This writer is not selfish. He lends the library books to others. When the depressed borrowers get the books and read them, they change from black and white to colourful!

Finally, the writer gets old. He has finished his book. He is dying. When he leaves the library, many books fly around him and bring him to the sky, just like what happened to the girl. Then the book written by him gets a life and fly back to the bookshelf and waits for people to borrow. In the library, the writer's photo has been put on the wall, next to the girl's photo.

I think the film is interesting. No one talks but I can understand it. It tells us knowledge is important. The ending is so touching. Although the writer is dead, I don't think it means he is dead because he shares his experience and his spirit in the book. His spirit is still alive!



### A letter of advice

Dear Connie,

I'm very sorry to hear about your problems and hope I can help. Do you feel better now? I understand how you feel. I will feel upset too if I cannot eat ice-cream anymore.

I know you do not want to quit eating snacks, how about you try to eat less? Why not try to do some jogging, hiking, swimming, weight training and skateboarding with your friends during weekends? It can burn your body fat and will not be boring. Besides, why not try replacing some junk food with fruit as snacks. Junk food contains a lot of fat and oil. It is not good for health and will cause you to be overweight.

I know your mum is very concerned if you can lose weight in a short period of time and you are a bit pressured with this. In fact, all parents are concerned about their children's health, you don't need to have hard feeling. So your mom is right that you should lose weight because being overweight will harm your health. To lose weight quickly, you need to do more exercise. Many nutritionists and doctors have recommended overweight patients to do more exercise to lose weight quickly. However, I know you are not good at team sport. Why not try to join some individual sports, such as jogging, swimming and hiking? I suggest you doing exercise with your friends. If you do exercise with your friends, you will not feel bored.

If I were you, I would talk to my parents about my plan and tell them my feelings. You can do it. Don't think that playing sports is a difficult task, take it as a habit. Hopefully you will get better soon. Let me know how things turn on.

Ms Lam





## A survey report on students' attitude towards the musical shows

### Introduction

A survey on musicals was recently conducted by 3A students. The aim of the survey was to learn about students' attitude towards the musical shows. The survey was given to 16 students in Secondary 2 to 3. This report presents the findings, conclusion and recommendations that have resulted from the survey.

### Findings

The survey asked the respondents if they liked musicals. Eighty percent said they liked them while twenty percent said they did not like them.

The survey also asked the respondents how often they watched musicals. Fifty-five percent said they watched them once every month or more often, while forty-five percent said twice a year or less often.

Moreover, we asked them where they had watched musicals. The majority said that the place was the School Hall. The second and third most popular places were concert halls and YouTube.

### Conclusion

According to the information collected in the survey, a lot of students liked musicals. Furthermore, some respondents did not watch them very often since they did not have time.

### Recommendations

Therefore, it is recommended that the Art Club promotes some musicals by playing the musical videos, such as High School Musical and Aladdin. Moreover, it is recommended that the Art Club and the English Club jointly organize musical performances in the School Hall in order to improve students' English.

### An encounter with a mermaid

Last Sunday, Old Master Q was free. He finished his lunch, then he went to Sai Kung Beach. He went fishing by himself. Old Master Q arrived at Sai Kung Beach, he excitedly shouted, 'Wow, what a sunny day! I love this. The beach was quiet and clean. It was a great place for fishing!'

After two hours, suddenly Old Master Q felt that his fishing rod was getting heavy. he tried to pull it up hard. He thought it would be a big fish and was thinking how to cook it later. Afterwards, Old Master Q discovered that he caught a mermaid. He was very surprised. He looked at the mermaid – she had long blonde curly hair, big eyes and pure smooth skin. He said, 'Little Mermaid, you are so beautiful! You're the most beautiful creature I have ever seen on earth.' Then she said shyly, 'Thank You!' Old Master Q carried the mermaid to a coffee shop and drank a cup of coffee. He went to a cinema and watched the film with her too. It was so romantic. Old Master Q went to buy a big aquarium, it was very expensive but he thought it was worth. Then he put the mermaid in a big aquarium.

Next day, Old master Q bought some flowers and cooked a meal for the mermaid. He played some music and fed the mermaid. She was overwhelmed. She was swimming at Old Master Q's home, and he enjoyed watching her in the aquarium very much. Old Master Q thought, 'How lucky I am!' In fact, the mermaid enjoyed watching the TV and listening to the music too. After a few weeks, Old Master Q was taking a rest. He was smoking and drinking in the living room while watching the mermaid. Suddenly, the mermaid in the aquarium came out and said, 'I miss home. I want to go back to Indian Ocean because ocean is my home. Thank you for taking care of me. I will miss you a lot.' Although Old Master Q did not want to the mermaid to leave, he took her back to Sai Kung Beach. He did not want to see her unhappy. At last, the mermaid kissed Old Master Q goodbye, she reminded him, 'Take care. Don't smoke too much. Try to find a sweet lady like me soon. I'll visit you again next time.'







### A letter of advice

Dear Connie,

Thank you for your letter. I'm very sorry to hear about your problems. I know that being overweight makes you feel upset and depressed and have low self-esteem. Hope I can help you.

You said that you could not stop yourself from snacking. I feel the same like you, I will feel upset if I cannot eat junk food anymore. However, you ought to eat fewer snacks, because snacks are very unhealthy. If I were you, I would find healthier food for snack such as nuts and fruits. It is healthier than chips and chocolates which are your favourites. Do you know these are all high in fat, oil and sugar? Instead, nuts and fruits will be low in fat and oil. Besides, I know you do not want to quit eating chocolates and chips, how about you try to eat less?

You said that you need to do more exercise but you are not good at team sports. If I were you, I would join some individual sports such as jogging, swimming, hiking etc. These sports can be done by yourself. Moreover, you can do exercise with your friends or play Wii. Wii has sports games, you can play them yourself or with your friends. Sports are not that boring. In fact, sports are interesting and good for your health. Your dad is right that you should do more exercise to lose weight because being overweight will harm your health. Do you want to have chronic diseases like heart disease, diabetes, etc?

I hope you can lose weight. If you have any question, you should write to me for help.

Ms Lam

### An advice letter

Dear Jessie,

Thank you for your letter. I am very happy that you told me about your problems. I hope I can give you some appropriate advice.

Well, you said you have a lot of pimples on your face. You need to wash your face every day, that will be very helpful.

Then, you said you are fat. I think you can try running every day and eat more fruits and vegetables. Exercise and a balanced diet can help to keep fit.

You also feel lonely at school. You can find some classmates to join the activities after school with you. In addition, you can try to take care of the others first, in this way, you can have more friends.

Next, you mentioned that you failed your English test, and you didn't know how to do better. You can ask your English teacher and classmates for help if you don't understand.

When your parents are busy, you can send them emails to tell them your problems and feeling, just like you shared your feelings with me. I'm sure they will listen to you because they love you.

Jessie, don't worry now. Try to follow my advice. Write to me again when you have time.

Yours,  
Chris





### Violin as a weapon

Last Saturday after finishing his lunch, Old Master Q went to buy a violin in a second-hand instrument shop. 'How much is this violin?' Old Master Q asked. 'It is \$3000,' the shop assistant said. Old Master Q wanted to learn violin and show off to Ms Chan who was his dream girl.

Then, Old Master Q took the violin and went home. He felt so happy. Suddenly, Old Master Q saw a robber robbing a 40-year-old man. Old Master Q felt so surprised and then angry. He thought 'I must save the 40-year-old man! What should I do?'

Afterwards, Old Master Q went to the robber and used his violin to fight with the robber. The 40-year-old man felt so surprised and the robber fainted away.

At last, a director shouted, 'Cut! What's the matter with you? Why do you hit our cast? We are shooting a film. Get out of here right NOW!' Old Master Q said embarrassedly, 'I'm so sorry.' Old Master Q felt so sad because his violin was broken. He could not show off to Ms Chan, his dream girl, his violin skill anymore.

### An advice letter

Dear Connie

Thanks for your letter. I'm sorry to hear about your problems. I hope I can give you some advice that will help you.

First, if you have been eating a lot of junk food, like chocolates and chips, you should stop. You could change the eating habit. You should have a balanced diet and eat fewer snacks.

Then, if you are not good at team sports at all, you could do some individual exercise regularly like jogging, cycling and swimming.

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

With best wishes,  
Ms. Lam



3D Lai Chun Leung

### My favourite hobbies

My first favourite hobby is basketball. I first started playing basketball when I was Secondary One. When playing basketball, you need to shoot accurately. I like playing basketball because it can improve my shooting skills and my body health. I play basketball every day. I usually play basketball with my teammates.

My second favourite hobby is dancing. I first started dancing when I was in Secondary Three. For dancing, you need to have a good coordination with your body. I like dancing because I can improve my music sense and listening to the beat. It can also help to improve my body coordination. I dance once a week. I usually dance with my friends.



Meeting celebrities in a restaurant

Dear Tim,

Today is Sunday. There's no school today and I'm at an outdoor café waiting for my breakfast. I see a young woman and a man at the outdoor café. They're arguing about something. The voices are becoming louder and louder, and they look very angry and look as if they want to kill each other.

Suddenly, the young woman throws a cup of tea at the man. He removes his glasses and shouts at the young woman again. Wow-I can't believe it! It's Kim An Yee and his girlfriend!

Then, I see a lot of people with their cameras coming here, and they look so excited as if they've found a lot of money.

Finally, the young woman throws the backpack at Kim. Then, Kim throws the backpack back at the young woman. They both slam the table before they start saying anything. Suddenly, the paparazzi turn up and take a lot of photos of Kim and the young woman. I'm sure after a few days, I'll see these photos in gossip magazines which say 'The celebrity argued with his girlfriend.' Let's wait and see!

After this incident, I'd never want to be a celebrity because even if you just do normal things, paparazzi will follow you to take photos of you. Don't you think so?

Love,  
Sam



### A featured article about Sherlock Holmes

In 1880s, a virtual detective lived at 221B Baker Street, London, solved many 'Murder mystery' with his assistant. He was Sherlock Holmes, who was a fictional character under Conan Doyle's pen.

Conan set up an independent medical practice in early life. While waiting for patients, Conan began writing stories and composed his first novels. Yet, they were not appreciated until 'A Study in Scarlet', the first novel of a series of Sherlock Holmes, was published.

One of the special features of the articles is that they were written from the point of view of Watson's, who was Holmes's assistant and in his perspective, according to Watson, Holmes was an eccentric. For instance, as I know, he could play violin skillfully with his audiences, but it was only a noise when he practised alone. From the beginning, I also thought it was odd and even funny, but soon I realized that every deed he did were meaningful, not only entertaining.

Holmes could catch the criminals. Not only did he use the forensic scientific skills to solve difficult cases, but also adopted them almost in disguise. What appeared to others as chaos, however, to Holmes a wealth of useful information like footsteps on muddy path, ashes of the cigarette, etc... He adopted any disguise to get some criminals' information. Unavoidably, it's also dangerous. He could almost lose his life.

'There's the scarlet thread of murder running through the colourless skein of life, and our duty is to unravel it, and isolate it, and expose every inch of it.' Holmes described when Watson asked for what detective was like from Holmes's view. Detective is a God-like job. Holmes was working for no awards to a certain extent, the other two detectives famous in his town seized his awards, but he said nothing.

A letter of reply to a friend in Canada

Dear Sue,

Thank you for your letter. Haven't seen you for ages! I miss you so much too.

This year is an exceptional year for me; going to school every day, feeling very satisfied. I like all the subjects I take this year! Among all the subjects, I like English the best. From Secondary 1 to Secondary 3, I used to think English was very boring. However, this year, I proved learning English can be fun! It just depends how you learn it.

My new classmates are very affable, and they care about me, and we get along well with each other.

Hong Kong, as you know, is a busy and crowded place and a city of competition. My favourite way of learning is through competition, because I think through competition, there's always great progress. As a result, I'd never worry about my public exam as I've planned what I've to do every day. I hope my time will be used wisely and effectively.

My goal is very simple - to get into a first class university, and of course, to reach the Performance Level in piano playing.

So don't worry about me, I'm doing fine. After all, I've struck a balance between study and play. Thank you for your support, and I will keep fighting for a prosperous future.

Looking forward to seeing you soon, and please reply me as soon as possible. Best wishes for you! Please send my regards to your mum and dad too!

Cheers,  
KAY



A reply email to a friend

Dear Sue,

I am glad to receive your letter. We all do miss you, too.

I have also settled in to the new high school life here. I am lucky to meet a lot of new friends and we have fun, too. We have joined the same activity because we like playing LBX robots.

I am planning my study timetable and do a lot of exercises to get good marks in my exam. My friends and I usually study after school. We always encourage each other. When we feel sad, we will help each other.

When I get a place in Secondary 4, a lot of things have changed. So I also set new goals for the coming years. I know that I always put a lot of pressure on myself, so I will set a timetable to do revision. I will set some time to relax.

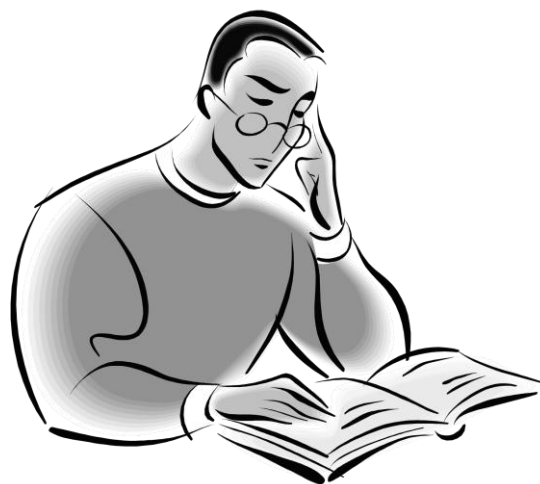
Let me share my new goals with you. First, I hope I can do revision for two hours every day. And then, I hope I can have time to play basketball in the basketball court every day.

If I feel stressed and upset about my studies, I will try to share my feeling with my parents, friends and classmates.

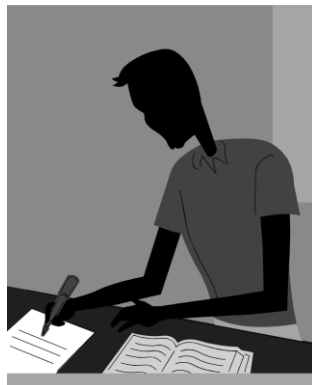
Finally, I want to be an actor in the future.

I need to stop now because I need to go to my friend's home for playing. I hope you enjoy your life in Canada. I always stand by you!

Cheers,  
Kay







A letter of reply to a friend in Canada

Dear Sue,

Thank you for your letter. I'm sorry I haven't written letters for a long time.

I think my new school life is colorful because the classmates are friendly. Most of my male classmates are handsome while the female classmates are beautiful, so I've many good looking friends at school! We always hang around with each other especially when we go to the library to study or go out for lunch. My new friends help me a lot in improving my self-confidence in learning, and they **encourage** me whenever I have any problems. Besides, we always have fun in class.

However, we've many exams here. In fact, I really worry about my English test. I'm planning to read English reference books extensively in order to improve my reading and writing skills. Since I earnestly want to get a passing grade in the public exam, I'll not hesitate to ask questions if I have any.

I'll not only study hard, but will also be active in sports activities. For instance, basketball, soccer and a few other sports to make myself healthy physically.

This is all about my colorful school life. How about you? Is it as colorful as mine? Please don't make me wait long for your reply.

Yours

Kay

P.S. If you've got a girlfriend, please don't forget to send me photos of both of you.

P.P.S. I hope you get good grades in your exam.

### Snow White and the clever dwarfs

Once upon a time, there were an evil queen and her beautiful daughter Snow White. They lived in a castle. The Queen hated her own daughter because she was jealous of Snow White's beauty. The Queen had a magical mirror, that mirror told the Queen who the most beautiful lady was on the earth every day. The mirror was fed up with this question but still repeatedly answered the Queen, 'Of course, it's you!' The Queen was so proud of her beauty.

One day, a prince who came from another kingdom arrived at the evil Queen's castle. He came here because he wanted to find the right woman to be his wife. The prince met the evil Queen and the Queen said, 'I'm the most beautiful lady on the earth! Please, love me and marry me! I'll be a great wife!' The Prince thought, 'Oh my gosh! I can't believe that there is such an ugly woman on the earth.' And he said 'I'm so sorry, I think I've made a mistake.' Then the Prince left with a feeling of disappointment.

Suddenly, Snow White showed up in front of the Prince and he fell in love with her at once. They talked to each other. The Prince said, 'You're so beautiful!' Then Snow White said, 'You're so handsome as well!' Afterwards, they both fell in love with each other, The Queen knew what happened and then ran to the magical mirror and asked, 'Who is the most beautiful woman on the earth?' Then the mirror said, 'Of course it must be you!' The Queen said, 'Then why did the prince love Snow White?' Then the mirror said, 'Oh! Snow White is awesome, she is an angel.' The Queen felt so angry that she made a poisonous apple and brought an ordinary apple for herself.

The Prince and Snow White knew what happened. They ran to their old friends - the seven dwarfs. The dwarfs promised to help them, they hid them inside a cave. The Queen arrived at the Dwarfs' house. The Dwarfs disguised as doctors and helped her to do a medical check-up. They told her she needed to eat more apples to keep her beauty. Then the Queen really believed in what they said and forgot everything. She ate the poisonous apple. Afterwards, she fell asleep deeply. The Prince and Snow White got married immediately and they lived happily ever after.



### Happy school life

I think all of you will agree that there are two most common problems students need to face in school. The first problem is that there are loads of homework and the next problem is that the learning content is too difficult to handle. Here are some solutions to these problems in order to help you lead a happy school life.

For those students who need to handle a lot of homework, I understand that it is because there is not enough time to finish all the homework in a short term of period. Besides, students may forget to write down the homework in their handbooks. Here are my suggestions. First, you must set a routine on how you spend your time after school. For instance, you must do all the homework before you play computer or do sports. Second, if you cannot concentrate at home, you can do your homework with your friends at school. Of course, you should choose some good students to study with.

The second problem is that students find the learning content of the subject difficult to understand what the teachers are teaching, so they will fail in the test because they do not ask friends or teachers to solve their problems. I suggest students must have the courage to ask the teachers questions and do some preparation before the teachers' actual teaching.

All in all, these are the most common problems students need to face in school. Do you feel the same? However, everyone has different problems, so students should find a way to solve them if you want a happier school life. As a result, you will not be afraid of going to school anymore. Instead, you will find school life colourful and meaningful.



### Beauty and courage

Once upon a time, there was a young man called Henry who had 3 things: a mirror, good look and sense of humor. Henry always looked at the mirror and said, 'Oh...I'm handsome.' But he was poor, every time when he looked at the mirror he would say, "Oh...I'm poor." But luckily all the beautiful girls loved him.

One day, Henry walked the wrong way to a subway, he walked and walked. At that moment, he saw a sign that said, 'Kick me and get a surprise!' so he kicked the sign. 'Ouch!' Then an old witch came out of the sign. 'I... I kicked a witch?' said Henry. 'Do you know what I do to someone who kicks me, Huh? I will cast a spell on them!' said the witch. Then, the witch turned Henry into a terrible beast.

'Oh...Now I got nothing to do, I lost my look and my sense of humor.' said Henry. Now, a rich man walked to the subway. Then the rich man saw Henry and said, 'Please don't eat me... I can give you all my money, please... please don't eat me.' Then the rich man gave Henry all the money and ran far away.

Weeks after weeks, Henry had a lot of money since he turned into a terrible beast. After a few months, many girls went to ask the witch. 'Can you tell us what happened to Henry? Where is he now?' The witch told them that Henry needed a kiss to break the spell.

Finally, many girls ran to Henry's house and wanted to help him. However, because of his frightening look, many girls dared not to kiss him and ran away. Only one of the girls called Jane picked up her courage and kissed Henry, and he turned back to a handsome man with a sense of humor. Henry never complained about his poverty as he thought good look and a sense of humour were more important than money. They then got married and lived happily ever after.



### The person I respect most

In this world, I have one most respectable person. Do you know who it is? She is my mother. When I came to this world, I didn't know anything. That was my mother who taught me to be a good person. Since I was small, she didn't force me to be a genius, a politician, a great man or an outstanding person. She just wants me to be a good man who is responsible and has right values. She doesn't want me to be like my father who is irresponsible. When I was two years old, my father left home and I didn't see him.

My mother loves me and my brother very much. She takes care of us no matter what happens. At the age of six, she taught me how to be a clever boy. She said, 'if a man wants to be outstanding, first, he must learn to be patient.' My mother believes that if one is impatient, he will mess things up.

Although I am a very impulsive boy, I still force myself to be patient when facing everything. I feel honoured to have a mother like her and I admire her very much. Despite the fact that my mother has experienced the failure in marriage, she is tough. I just think she is unlucky.

What I can do to redeem my mother is to work very hard in school, I want to make my dream come true -- to be a policeman when I grow up. I think my mother would feel happy if I were a policeman one day.

Thank you, mother. You are the person I respect most in my life.



### Discuss the causes and effects of truancy in school

Truancy can be defined as not attending school without sound reasons or official permission. This problem is becoming more and more serious. That is why I am writing here to discuss its causes and effects. By the end, I will also give some suggestions.

Why do the schoolmates always play truancy? This is because they have a lot of problems. Firstly, schoolmates feel bored at school, they cannot catch up the work at school. Secondly, there are social conflicts with classmates and teachers. They want to avoid the problems. Thirdly, they may be indulged in online games. There may other tensions outside school to draw them out, for example, they have lots of friends outside school. Truancy may lead to lots of negative effects. The negative effects will make schoolmates' school record and their future bad. Parents feel disappointed with demerits that their children get. Even worse, they may be driven out of school.

Some actions have to be done before it is too late. We should help truants back to the right track. Firstly, teachers and social workers may counsel the teenagers and understand the reasons more. Secondly, parents should provide a harmonious environment for and talk to their children. Thirdly, small teachers should be found to help them catch up the schoolwork.

To conclude, I think truancy is wrong because they have a lot of problems making them not want to go to school, but the problem should be able to be solved by joint effort of parents and schools.

4E Chu Kim To

### Asking for advice

Dear Helpful Henry,

I am very worried about my friend, Amy, who has been acting strangely lately. Amy used to be very helpful and active but now she is usually selfish and shy.

I notice that she seems very short-tempered and touchy recently. Once I saw her raging at herself. She even hurt herself. I also saw her popping drugs in the toilet.

I tried to talk to her but she told me to get off. After that, she has been avoiding me ever since. I think she knows that I saw her taking drugs.

What can I do to help her? Can you give me some advice?

Yours sincerely,  
Chris

4E Leung Ka Ho, Louis

### A letter of advice

Dear Paul,

I'm glad to receive your letter. In your letter, you said that your school was going to organize an overseas exchange programme. I think you can enjoy the programme if you join it. Let me tell you why.

I joined a whole-wide learning programme last year. The programme was held in England. There were altogether twenty participants. They were my classmates, teachers and parents. The programme was an environmental programme which offered a variety of activities for us. For example, visit to factory, cultural conservation and energy saving activities were organized. In the programme, I learnt many things such as communication skills, local culture, and laws of environment. I enjoyed all the activities very much because they were amazing and fun.

Paul, you must try to join the programme offered by your school. You are already a senior student; you are mature enough to take care of yourself. Also, joining the programme will be beneficial to your future.

I hope you will find my ideas helpful and join the programme. Drop me a few lines and tell me how you feel.

Yours  
Chris

### The adventure of Batman

Ten years ago, Tumor and his gang ran Jewel City and they greatly outnumbered the police. It was so dangerous on the streets that not a soul dared to go out at night. The entire city was like a hell.

Everyone was afraid of the power of Tumor, and no one dared to resist. But, deep inside the heart of all citizens, they hated him and wanted to beat him. With Batman's continuous effort, now the city people are prepared to go to war with Tumor.

One night, Tumor was preparing to sell tonnes of drugs to a businessman. However, he didn't know his client was a undercover. The police planned to catch Tumor that night. Tumor and his gang were hiding in a dim alley away from the busy streets. And then, an ox-like man walked towards him.

The moon came out from the dark clouds. It was the decade's brightest night. Tumor came out of the dark corner and said, 'Wonderful, you will get the things you need.' At this time, his gang showed up as well. They then went to a warehouse where the police and Batman had set up traps waiting for them.

When they entered the warehouse, a large number of police officers surrounded them. The ox-like man pointed his gun at Tumor. 'Don't resist', said the man. Tumor was afraid and confused. But he could still find a chance to escape during fighting. His feet were as fast as the thunder. Batman was standing on a tall building. He understood Tumor was a tricky guy and he could be able to escape.

When Tumor came out of the warehouse, Batman stopped him. Tumor was as angry as a billow, and they began to fight. 'Why do you always ruin my plan?' Tumor shouted. Batman hit his face and said, 'because you are evil.' Suddenly, Tumor took out a tricky weapon and shot Batman. Batman fell down. When Tumor was about to run, some children came and surrounded him. Batman stood up again and gave Tumor a big punch. Tumor was arrested.

Batman praised the children and said, 'as long as we help one another, we can overcome all difficulties.' Since that night, peace and order has returned to the city again.



### A walkathon

Good morning, Principal, teachers and students. I am John Lee from Class 5C. Today I would like to talk about an annual charity walkathon event. I would like to share my experience here.

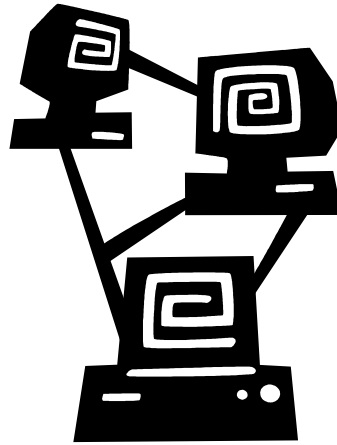
Last December, my sister and I took part in an annual charity walkathon. The aim of the event is to raise money for a sports fund which supports disadvantaged athletes in Hong Kong. This year, my sister and I dressed up as cartoon characters in the walkathon and we raised \$2500 altogether. We felt happy about it. We thought this event was so meaningful.

We have joined this event for five years. Five years ago, there were not many people joining the event. But this year, there were over 100,000 participants taking part in it. I am glad to see more and more people pay attention to the disadvantaged athletes. There are in fact a lot of athletes who are in the lower social stratum. They have a dream and they love sports. They would like to earn an honorable award for Hong Kong. Because of the poverty, these athletes do not have a good environment for training. They do not have money to support their daily living. They need financial help.

The event this year lasted for six hours. We walked from Central to Tsing Yi. Throughout the journey, my sister and I made a lot of friends. It was great fun. As this annual walkathon is meaningful, I will continue to take part in it every year. I encourage all of you to take part as well.

Thank you.





### Should illegally download and distribute films be done?

Good morning, everyone.

It is popular to illegally download and distribute films in Hong Kong nowadays. Illegally downloading films and distributing them is free, fast and convenient. But do you know it will cause a severe problem after you illegally download and distribute products?

One major problem is that most of the films need a lot of manpower to make them. Also, they use a lot of time, spirit or money to make the films. So, if we download or distribute films illegally, it is disrespectful to producers, and we waste their time or spirit in making the films.

Besides, the films that we are downloading illegally, there is always no guarantee. So if you download the pirated films, the viruses inside will invade our computers, and the hacker will steal your private information. Also, the content of film may be changed. They always have some unhealthy content inside, so it's not good for children or teenagers.

Lastly, I would like to state some of the films have copyright. Downloading films illegally and distributing them is a violation of Hong Kong privacy code, and then it will result in a fine or imprisonment.

The problems caused by downloading films illegally and distributing are severe. Please, I would like that you consider all the information and stop piracy. Thank you.

Letter of advice

Dear Anonymous in Hong Kong,

I am sorry to read about your problem, it is difficult to build up a 7-year friendship, you should cherish it. I understand that she is sensitive and stubborn, actually you are always saying sorry to her and she is not an equitable person. And if both of you are opinionated, how can you solve the problem? Maybe there is a better method.

First of all, it is very important that you do not argue who is wrong. She is very popular in your class, so she always forgets you and talks to the other people. How about you? Apart from her, do you have other good friends? You said you are good at your studies, have you thought that you are too focused on studies and you ignore the ordinary social life? If you are like this, you should change and meet more people.

In addition to this, you should have more communication with her. Probably she does not comprehend you, do you always tell her about your feelings and mood? Maybe you don't know how to express yourself. In this way, you may consult with your teachers, parents and other elders, because they have more experience with this.

The last, but not least thing is that you should know what status you are in her mind. You must know 'your pay does not equal your return', although you attach importance to her, she might think it is matter of course and don't care about that. I am not saying that she is that type of person, but you should distinguish yourself. Moreover, you can properly adjust your attitude, make her feel comfortable with no pressure.

I'm sure that if you follow my advice, you will see that everything will work out. Don't give up easily, I believe your precious friendship will come out unscathed. I will always give you unlimited support!

Good luck,  
Gavin Yin

### A speech on piracy

Good morning Principal, teachers and fellow students. My name is Erin Yan from Form 5. I am the Chairperson of Liberal Studies Association. It is my great pleasure and honour to deliver a speech to you. Today, I would like to tell you about why illegal downloading and distributing films is piracy and that this is a crime.

Do you know what illegal downloading is? And why do people download films illegally? Actually people don't know the consequences of illegal downloading. And they think it is easy to download films. It's just very quick. So they will just download and ignore the consequences. And some people are greedy. They will download the pirated films because they are free. Have you downloaded films because of these reasons?

Illegal downloading of films and distributing them is wrong. These people infringe copyright. There won't be any new idea in this world because the authors will not create new stories. The main cause is that they cannot enjoy the fruits of his or her work. This city will die because of the lack of new ideas.

Do you know what is the right thing to do? You should buy the copyrighted films or CDs. Tell more people that they shouldn't download films illegally. Tell them it is wrong. And the government should educate the citizens. Everyone should do their best to kill the illegal empire.

Downloading illegal films and songs will have serious consequences. In Hong Kong, if you violate software copyright laws, you can be fined up to HK\$50000! Repeated offences could also mean winding up in jail. There are many policies to control illegal activities in the world these days. Don't let your greed or ignorance get the better of you. Respect the law protecting intellectual property.

If we co-operate together, I am sure we'll succeed in combating illegal downloading of films. Thank you very much.

## A proposal for a trip

Proposal for a trip for 5AB3

To: Ms Alanis Chan, 5AB3 English teacher

From: Kermit Wong, the Chairperson of the Student Union, S.K.H. Li Fook Hing Secondary School

The government wants citizens to kill all the zombies in zombieland. It is believed that it can help people improve their ability. Therefore, I am proposing a trip for 5AB3 students.

### Location

I propose to go to zombieland because there is beautiful view. The zombies are cute. The students have never been there before, so it will be exciting for them.

### Target participants

I think 5AB3 students should go. In addition, their English teacher should go with them. It is because the students need a leader. And a teacher can look after them. Therefore, they should go together.

### Activities

#### Setting of tents

5AB3 students should sleep in tents. They can find a location on the peak. It is because it is safe to stay on the mountain top. The zombies cannot climb up to the mountain top. Boys and girls would also sleep in separate tents.

#### Find food

It is proposed that students should do some farming and fishing. They can grow their own food, such as, carrots, potatoes and cabbages. Students can fish from the peak. The teacher can cook for the students. They can enjoy the meals together. It would be fun.

#### Kill zombies

Every day, students need to go downhill in two groups. They should carefully kill the zombies with guns and knives. If they are in danger, they can call Fan Yung for help. The goal is to kill all the zombies.

#### Benefits

With this trip, 5Ab3 students can learn survival skills, for example, set tents, grow food and fish. Besides, they can become stronger. It is good for their body. When they face problems, they can be brave. They would not be scared. After the trip, they would become all-rounded teenagers.

I believe this trip is useful for students. I hope you will consider my proposal.

5B Wong Fan Yung

### **Mysterious Disappearance of English Teacher: Student Suspected**

A female English teacher is found missing. She is last seen on Monday on 4<sup>th</sup> February 2013.

At around 7pm, she was seen scolding a student in the staff room. It was because the students used foul language during lesson. The next day, she did not go to school for work.

The suspect is a student of the missing teacher. He is an 18-year-old male student. He is a sporty student with good volleyball skills. On that day, a Form 5 student saw the suspect with the missing teacher leaving the school together. The student is suspected to have kidnapped the teacher because she always punished the student. It is possible that the student hates the teacher as he does not want to be punished anymore.

The police questioned all her students. No one knows where she is now. The suspect has not gone to school for 4 days already. His family contacted the police because they could not find him. The police are now looking for people who have seen them. The hotline is 25605678.



A letter of advice to Jackie

Dear Jackie,

Thank you for your letter about your recent life. I'm very sorry to hear that you're feeling unhappy for a long time because no one seems to like you. I'd like to give you some suggestions that might help.

You mentioned in your letter that you're fat and unattractive. In my opinion, I think you should develop your inner beauty and appreciate your appearance. Also, you have to learn how you should treat your friends such as being friendly, nice and caring. I think this is a good idea. I believe that if you follow my suggestions, you will have more friends than before. In addition, you talked about your experience about losing weight. I suggest that you should do exercise regularly. Then, you should drink lots of water and eat more vegetables and fruits. Also, it is important to sleep enough. These suggestions can help you lose weight healthily.

Last but not least, if you are still feeling unhappy, you can talk to your school's counselor. Many students have sought help from her. I'm sure she can help you too. Do give it a go and never despair. You may write to me again if you have further questions.

Yours truly,  
Mentor



## Say 'No' to illegal downloading and distributing of films

Good morning, principal, teachers and fellow schoolmates.

I'm this year's head-prefect. My name is Chris Wong. Today, I would like to talk about why illegal downloading films and distributing them is wrong.

More and more teenagers are involved in illegal downloading and distributing of films, this is common among young people. Just ask yourself, have you watched films without paying or listened to a song for free? These are actually acts of piracy.

Many people may think this is a not a serious matter, however, actually this is a crime. Illegal downloading is no different from stealing from a shop. It is taking without permission and it is illegal! Illegal downloading is a serious crime and offenders are punishable by law.

Piracy actually brings bad consequences to us. Just imagine when creators are not paid for their work after all the effort they have paid, this is very unfair to them! Also, this strongly discourages creativity and we will suffer eventually.

As a student, if you illegally download and distribute online films, you will be suspended from the school and if you are caught, you can be fined up to HK\$50,000. You could even receive prison sentence. This will affect your future.

Bear in mind that illegal downloading is an illegal act; you will get into serious trouble if you try to do so. I hope that none of us would commit such crime. Remember, every individual can make a difference! Respect copyright!

Thank you!





### Drink-driving cases on the rise

There is evidence to suggest that drink-driving is becoming an increasingly serious problem in Hong Kong. Last year, over a hundred people died in drink-driving accidents. In this article, first of all, the possible results of drink-driving will be revealed. Secondly, a number of ways to stop drink-driving will be suggested. Last but not least, there will be a discussion on the pros and cons of more severe punishments.

There are many possible consequences of drink-driving. Drivers might fall asleep while driving. They may not be able to react quickly and may not be in full control of the vehicle. They will be a danger to other road users and may hurt others.

The government, the public and drivers can join hands to fight against drink-driving. The government can use more public education about the dangers of drink-driving. In addition, they can put up drink-driving posters in public places so as to raise people's awareness. Also, the government can have TV commercials showing drink-driving accidents and their consequences. The police may carry out more random breath tests. If drivers drink when they drive, the government can suspend or cancel their driving licenses. However, if drivers do not cooperate, policemen can send them to police station for punishments.

Some people may think that the government should impose more severe punishments on drink-driving. One of the advantages is that this would send a strong message that drink-driving is not acceptable. It could reduce the accidents caused by drink-driving. Nevertheless, one of the disadvantages is that this may not stop people from breaking the law. Also that would need more policing.

If you drink, don't drive. Let's create a world with no drink-driving accidents.



### A letter of advice

Dear Lucy,

Thank you for your letter. I understand why your parents feel worried about your studies and I know that this is a great opportunity. Anyway, I would like to give you some advice and suggestions.

If I were you, I would introduce the director to my parents. As they feel secure and thoroughly understanding your jobs, it can reduce their fierce emotion and feel less worried. We would not want our parents to feel worried for us, right? Therefore, I suggest you to communicate with your parents and director. Let your parents know more about your job.

Also, you should promise to work extra hard and not let your work influence your studies. You know that entertainment industry could have a very bad influence to you. You must not give up your studies and promise you can handle and focus on your studies. You should calmly explain and compromise with your parents. For instance, set a timetable and strike a balance between study and work.

Do you have teacher recommendation? I think you can invite a teacher to write a letter to explain why this role is beneficial as well as its importance as an educational qualification. You can give the letter to your parents and make them feel secure.

Finally, I really hope you can convince your parents and do your dream job. I will support you and hope to hear your good news. Never give up.

Best wishes,  
Chris



### A letter of advice

Dear Lucy,

How's your day today? Did you have a great time at last night's party? Oh! I forgot to congratulate you for having a chance to take a role in a local film but I can't believe your parents object to this opportunity fiercely. Don't worry, I have already thought of a few ideas to convince them.

First of all, you must tell them that it is a valuable opportunity to take a role in a film, not everyone can have this chance. It can also inspire your interests and talents. You have an unknown talent that you have a cheerful and active temperament. You also like acting different kinds of things and animals. I can tell you have a heart to be an actress.

You said that your parents object to it. One of the reasons is because it will intervene with your study. Oh! Come on! When did you study since after Primary school? You don't even need to study to get good marks in exams. It is just a short period of time, it would not affect your 'study', so tell your parents to relax about your study.

They are afraid that the entertainment industry will have a bad influence on you. God! I can't think of any places that will have bad influence on you except school. Every day, students swear, punch each other, some of them even set fire in the classroom. All these haven't had bad influence on you, then why would entertainment industry do you harm? Tell your parents that they can watch you while taking part in the film to let them feel relieved.

I hope you can persuade your parents. Remember! Talk to them peacefully, just use your softest voice to talk to them. I don't wish that I will see you on the front page of the newspaper! LOL! Value the great opportunity.

Chris





A letter of advice

Dear Lucy,

Hello! It has been a long time since I last met you. How are you doing? Glad to hear that you have an opportunity to take a role in a local film. But your parents fiercely object to it. Don't worry. I'll help you.

First and foremost, you have to make sure that you have enough determination and enthusiasm to insist to the last minute because time is life. If you lose your time, you lose your life. Action speaks louder than words. You shouldn't only give them an empty guarantee, you have to show them. Please think twice, it is not a game, there is no restart button. If you think you are not ready, not meeting the requirement for it, focus on your study.

You will have sacrifices as well, e.g. you won't have time for entertainment and socializing. If you hesitate while you are reading my email, that means you are not that determined. Should you consider the factors I mentioned above?

In case, you say 'not a chance, I can work it out!' I do admire you and let me tell you different kinds of ways to persuade your parents. Participating in English speaking local films helps improve your speaking skills. Your parents say it will interfere with your study, prove them wrong by upholding the academic results. Make a time table and arrange your time properly. It may help you strike a balance both timetable.

When I was young, I was in that situation like you. I love music and my parents didn't give me any support. They even broke my guitar. That motivated me not to give up. I will not let anyone look down on me anymore. Now, I have become a superstar. Everybody knows my name! Lucy, you can do it too!

Best wishes,  
Chris

A letter of complaint

12th March, 2012

Dear Sir/ Madam

**Re: Complaint about Kingdom Education tutorial centre in Chai Wan**

I am Chris Wong, one of the students of Tony Chan who is an English tutor in Kingdom Education tutorial centre in Chai Wan. I am writing to express my strong dissatisfaction at the poor quality of your tutorial centre and the lessons provided. There are several major problems that I would like you to pay attention to.

My first complaint is that the tutorial centre is not well managed. The registration system is too slow and not convenient. In other tutorial centres, a centralized computer system is being used to manage the students' registration system. However, in this centre, one staff is responsible for taking the roll call for all the students. This particular system is so outdated and inefficient at all. The registration system makes students wait for a long time. There are always long queue outside the centre. This makes the centre very crowded and not well-organised. Besides, when I asked the staff why the registration was so slow, they just gave me a poker face and said, 'It is not my problem!' This attitude is very bad and not polite at all.

The next problem is that the facilities in the centre are so poor. The classroom is too small, the area is around 300 square meters accommodating around 80 students every lesson. There are too many students in one class, it makes the classroom so crowded. On the other hand, the poor sound shielding in the classroom also is another issue with your centre. The noise from the streets comes into the classroom. Moreover, the chairs and desks are broken all the time. It is a nuisance to receive the handouts with missing pages and typos all the time. These problems will affect the student's learning progress. How can you advertise that your tutorial centre is a high-standard education institution with these problems existing?

Another problem that makes me disappointed is the celebrity tutor. In Tony's lesson, he always talks about things that are not related to the lesson. The most horrible experience I have is that Tony spent 45 minutes telling jokes. He wasted a

lot of time in the lesson. Besides, he knew nothing about English, he always made mistakes in his notes. I applied for your courses because you mentioned that Tony could help ninety percent of his students to get a Level 5\*\* in English. However, this is not convincing at all after learning how Tony conducts his lesson. Indeed, I did not achieve as much as I should have. Tony promised that everyone who joins his lesson can get 5\*\*, but my result in HKDSE was only Level 4! I did not improve my English in Tony's class and I want to know how you are going to bear the responsibility.

Here I have some suggestions on how to deal with these problems. First, all the facilities in the Chai Wan centre should be renewed. Next, consider installing the computer registration system in your centre so as to speed up the registration process. After that, Kingdom Education Tutorial Centre should fire Tong Chan when he could not improve his teaching skills. Lastly, return my 50% money back because Tony failed to fulfill his promise.

If I do not receive a satisfactory reply, I will bring this case to the Consumer Council. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Yours faithfully,  
*Chris Wong*  
Chris Wong



A letter of complaint

Dear Sir

I am writing to complain about the English tutorial lessons in your centre.

I am one of the students who took English tutorial lessons from your well-known tutorial centre in Hong Kong last month, I found there are many problems there.

First of all, the tutorial centre is not well managed and there were too many students in one class. The lessons always overran, I do not know why your time management are so bad. The lessons I chose should be 45 minute but the class always overran for more than 15 minutes, it just wasted my time. Next , regarding the classroom, the classroom is too small, but there were a lot of students, it badly affected the lessons. Even worse some students were eating in the classroom and they just left the rubbish on the table.

Another problem is that there were too many video lessons. Video lesson is a good thing in a way that it could cater more students at one time, however, the video quality was poor, I could not see the words on the notes. I think you are pulling a fast one on me, thus, I really see red about it.

Also, another major problem is the celebrity tutor, he was not a good teacher. In the lesson, he did not know much about the new examination format, he just knew the topic which the examiner has chosen and just told us to study it, it was an ineffective way of teaching, thus I did not learn much from the tutor. I am really mad about the tutor.

I think you should deal with the problem as soon as possible. And I think you should give me a full refund and an apology. If you fail to do so, I will report to the media and you will lose a lot of customers.

Please investigate into this matter as soon as possible. I look forward to your reply.

Yours faithfully  
Chris Wong  
Chris Wong

What a good short story is and where to get ideas to write a short story

Dear Betty,

Thanks for your email. I know you want to write a short story. Therefore, I want to give you some opinions on where to get ideas to write a short story, and what a good short story is.

Writing a short story, we need to focus on its plot, setting, characters and some sort of resolution. Short stories can come from such genres as horror, fantasy, romance, science fiction, and adventure. They can be action packed and exciting, or introspective and philosophical. They can be romantic, bleak or optimistic.

If the story is quite short and the vocabulary is easy, I think even younger students can read it. Also, the plot has to be simple but interesting, which can attract readers. However, if the plot is too complicated, it may bore readers.

In my opinion, you can start with a simple adventurous story. The main character can meet lots of interesting people. I think the audience will enjoy finding out the relationships among different people and cultures.

I suggest you can get the idea for writing short stories from any experience of your family, friend, or even yourself. Needless to say, you need to add your creativity in writing the story so that it will not be exactly the same with the other events. In this way, your story will be more unique and interesting to be read.

Additionally, by watching TV, you can also find ideas to write a short story. Then, add your imagination into it, and you will finish your story easily. Also, go to mall or the local diner, and take in all the people around you. In these places, you will observe people from all walks of life. Listen to their conversations, and make notes on ideas for a story. Maybe at the next table is a couple getting a divorce and they are arguing about their life problems. You could use that scenario as the seed of a story. Therefore, it's important to pay attention to people around you in daily life.

Not only paying attention to life around you, but you can also read more books, to enrich your idea and expand the vocabulary used.

Let me know if you need any help with your short story. I hope my suggestion can help you write excellent short stories.

Best wishes,  
Helen



A play script – The insurance broker

*(at a restaurant)*

Man: Hey, Honey, I want to travel to Taiwan with you. What do you think?

Woman: I want to go to Taiwan too! Should we buy an insurance plan?

Man: That's a good idea! But I don't know where we can buy it. Do you know?

Woman: Um ... No, I don't.

Broker: *(approaching the couple)* Hello, Sir and Madam. Do you want to buy insurance? I'm a professional insurance broker. My name's Kwan Li. This is my name card.

Man: Yes, you're right! We wanna buy travel insurance. Do you have any suggestions?

Broker: Yes, of course. I have a great travel insurance plan here. *(switches on a laptop computer)* I'll show it to you. It's as low as \$212 for a couple for a 5-day tour. It covers up to HK\$1,200,000 for worldwide medical expenses.

Woman: Does it cover activities like bungee jump, skiing and water sports?

Broker: Yes, it does. *(shows the man the keyboard)* Just key in your personal data and your credit card number, then the payment will be settled. *(The man types something and then the broker types something.)*

Broker: It's done! Have a nice trip!  
*(The broker leaves quickly with his laptop. The couple find that they've got nothing!)*



### Tackling the problem of teenage depression

Teenage depression is a very serious problem in Hong Kong. A recent survey conducted by the Health Department showed that more than 5000 young people under the age of 18 are suffering from depression. This figure, which has been consistently rising for more than 20 years, is a source of considerable worry. Here are a number of useful and practical ways to help solve this problem.

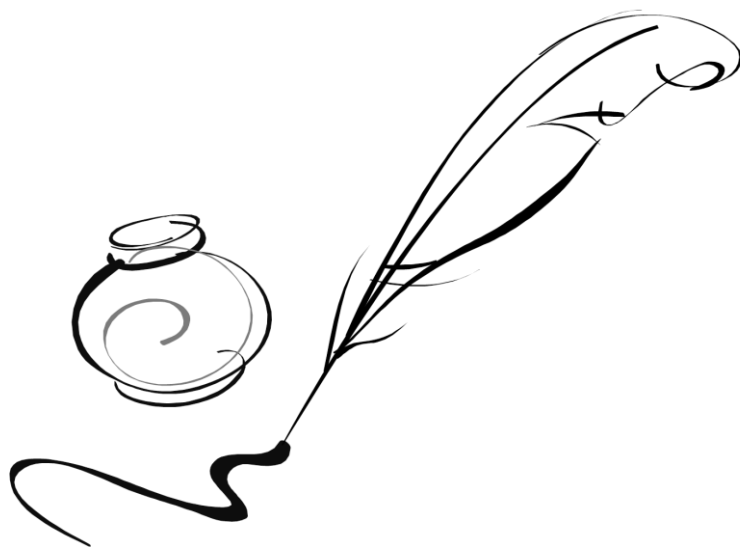
The first and most effective way to prevent depression among teenagers is for parents to set good example. As with many things, teenagers tend to copy their parents' behaviour. If their parents lead a healthy lifestyle, they may also follow them. Moreover, parents are encouraged to talk to their children more about this significant issue. A study in Japan shows that if parents, especially mothers, share their thoughts and feelings with their children, they are less likely to suffer from this sickness. No matter how busy parents are, they should find time to talk with their children every day. They should talk to them as if they were friends, and find out what they have been doing and what problems they are facing. Such parental support is crucial in helping teenagers to adopt and maintain a happy and healthy lifestyle.

To prevent teenagers from having this illness, the government should step up its efforts in offering more counseling programs for teenagers who are suffering from depression. Such programs should aim to provide help and support not only to the teenagers themselves but also to their families, who can also provide help to them.

Of course, the best way to stop teenagers from having this problem is education. Schools should organize campaigns in which students play an active role in finding out how to lead a healthy lifestyle. Schools should also organize more talks and exhibitions highlighting the possible reasons for having depression. Apart from social workers, doctors and other experts, people who suffered from depression in the past should also be invited to share their experiences with students, as they can create a greater impression on teenagers.

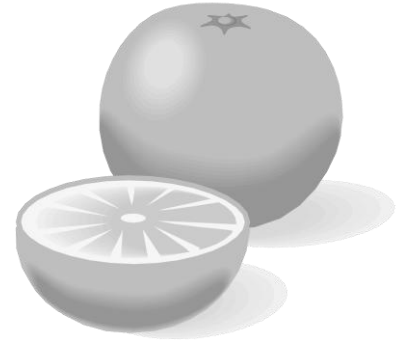
To conclude, in order to help teenagers fight against the problem of depression, parents, schools and the government should join hands together to achieve this goal. If all these suggestions are adopted, our next generations will have a brighter future.

*Poems*  
*by our Budding Poets*



Orange

Orange is the sound of joy  
Orange is a musical note full of energy  
Orange smells like moving melodies  
Orange makes me feel pleasant and lively  
Orange is a symphony and an orchestra  
Orange is an inspiration



Piano

piano  
imaginary powerful  
performing composing expressing  
violin guitar clarinet drum  
compiling mixing surprising  
creative lyrical  
music

I am a leader

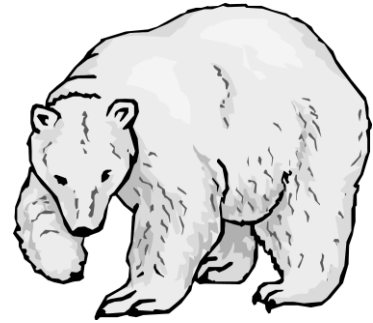
I am a leader  
I am brave and courageous.  
When my companions are in need,  
I will be there to help indeed.

As a good leader,  
I have to be their role model.  
To be punctual, to be diligent,  
And to make sure they will not get into troubles.

I have a responsibility to take care of my team,  
To cheer them up, to encourage them and to assist them.  
To develop a positive mind,  
And to trust them in what they do.

I am a leader.

### Polar Bear



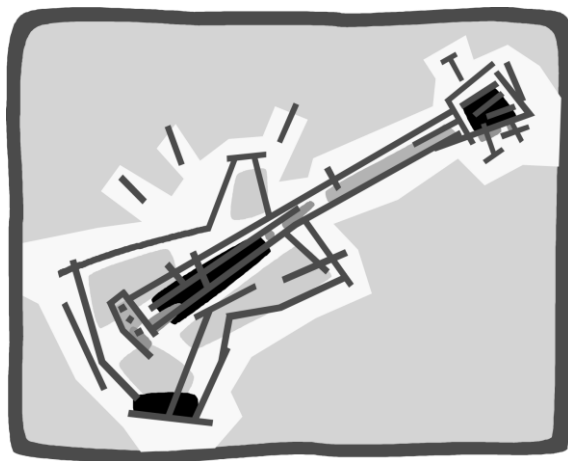
Let me be a *Polar bear*.  
White fur bright like the sun in the *Pole*.  
Spark like the aurora at night.  
Slide around the glaciers, ice skating every day.  
The time was good then, but something happened.

I feel hot and wish to put off my *furry coat*.  
The glaciers started to melt, but there was not a hint of why.  
Arctic fox and Seal won't appear again,  
I lost my dear friends forever more.  
I see not a folk around me,  
I fear that I can't survive any longer.  
Float out towards the sea for food,  
but there won't be a place to rest when I feel tired.

I know the day has come, the day that everything vanishes.  
I can't stand this situation any longer, so I leave this to **WARN YOU**.  
There won't be glaciers in the world anymore for me, or **YOU!!!**

### TIME

Time is our passion, energy and beat  
Time is a one-way path and there's no way back  
Time, you can't miss it, but you may miss it.  
Time is something you can't see, but exists.  
Time is precious.



## Guitar

Guitar

Comfortable Powerful  
Unforgettable Exciting Suprising  
Brilliant Wonderful Great Excellent  
Rockn'roll Metallic Imaginary  
Colourful Nice  
Instrument

3A Stephannie Hoo

### Hot chocolate

I am hot chocolate

I am gorgeous

I am delicious

I am hot chocolate

Hanging with marshmallow friends

I am hot chocolate

I am quite powerful

You can drink me with popcorn

I can make you warm

I am hot chocolate

Let your classmates try

They will love me

I am hot chocolate

You can find me everywhere

I will be waiting for you there

### His hands

His hands are smooth

His hands are huge.

His hands are warm and soft.

Holding his hands, I feel secure.

His hands teach me to be brave.

His hands give me tissues when I am blue.

His hands held me gently from the day we first met each other.

His hands make my heart beats stronger every time he holds me.

His hands take me to heaven.

His hands hold me tightly when I get lost.

His hands love my hands.

