青年學生談理想 6A 余文意

今天，我很高興能夠以「青年學生談理想」為題，參加這次演講比賽。

首先我想詮釋一下講題的意義。「青年」一詞，根據聯合國的定義，就是指年齡在十五至二十四歲之間的人。「青年學生」順理成章就是指在這個年齡界限裏仍然在學的學生。至於「理想」的意義是甚麼？我認為它是指正確的希望。人之所以是萬物之靈，有異於一般動物，原因便是除了索求物質的滿足外，還追求精神的滿足。這種追求正是推動人們大步向前，力求進步的發動器。所以理想可說是人生的精神支柱，是人生前途的目標。

現在，就讓我從三方面說明我的看法。首先，我會說明青年學生樹立理想的重要性；其次，我會指出青年學生樹立理想應抱持的態度，以及實際理想的方法；最後，我會從家庭、學校、社會三方面分析青年學生如何從中得到支援，造就理想。

人的一生實在短暫，扣掉出生後無知的孩提時代，以及年邁體衰的老年時代，可以有所作為的時間並不多，而青年時期正是為未來奠基的關鍵階段。根據心理學家艾力達的分析，青年人正處於自我辨識與自我肯定的階段，常常思考有關「自我」的問題，例如「我是誰」、「我想要什麼」、「我將來是怎樣的」，如果他們能夠肯定自我的價值，知道自己將來的方向，便不至於產生迷茫或混濁。《佛光菜根譜》一書中有一篇《人要有理想》的文章，指出今天的青年，大都缺少理想，缺乏抱負，因為無願，無熱、無心、無志，所以在工作上便會有無力感。我很贊同他的看法，青年人有了理想才會不怕吃苦，奮力克服困難；為了解到遠遠的目標，也不會斤斤計較眼前的吃虧。因此，我在開始時說理想是人類的精神支柱，沒有它，人便會變得空虛，沒有朝氣和拼勁。試問沒有理想的人生有何意義呢？

對於我們這些仍在求學的青年來說，樹立理想更為重要。現今世界科技發達，我們只要輕輕按一下電腦鍵盤，一切國際大事，社會時事，天文地理，人文科學等資料和知識都可以輕輕地表現眼前。所以我們比上一輩同齡的人更應該見多識廣，更應該深入瞭解自我的需要，社會的需要，國家及世界的現況。掌握了這些資料，我們便可以定立理想，為自己，為社會，為國家，為世界盡力，貢獻所長。你看國父孫中山先生不是在求學時期已定立志向為人民服務嗎？還有，首位獲得諾貝爾物理獎的華人楊振寧先生，年僅十六歲時便考入清華，攻讀物理，立志要成為出色的科學家，貢獻世界。

那麼，究竟我們在樹立理想時應抱持怎樣的態度呢？我認為我們大可以大膽創新，用一句科學家的口吻就是「大膽假設，小心求證」，試問當初誰會想到人類可以登上月球呢？可是科學家們力排除萬難，積極地探索這門「妙想天開」的學問。經過無數次的實驗，他們終於成功了。在這個喧囂的時代，人擁有理想似乎是不切實際的，理想往往受到嘲笑和鄙視。我曾經聽聞過這樣的一件事，一位年青人對父親說：「我的理想是要當一個出色的小丑。」父親立即懶然地說：「沒出息！當小丑有什麼用，賺得多少錢？」我相信一般的父母都會有這樣的反應，可是他們有沒有想過如果那位年青人認真務的去幹，將來未必不成大器，要知道當一個惹人發笑的小丑談何容易，這實在是一門高深的學問啊。話說回來，有時，我們也委實不爭氣，難免成年人小看我們，因為部份人談理想真的是信口開
河，欠缺認識，例如一個外號「睡魔」的同學說他將來要成為一個億萬富翁，我相信他的理想或者只有在夢中才能夠實現。由此觀之，在我們六零、九十、九零年一代樹立理想之餘，也要認真地審視自己的生活和學習經驗，評估自己的實力，避免好高騖遠，空口說白話。

毋庸置疑，當我們選擇了想做的事後，就要對自己負責任，盡力朝向理想邁進。那麼怎樣才能達到理想呢？無論我們的理想有多高遠或遠大，我們也必須要立足於現實。腳踏實地地逐步實踐理想，正如爬梯子一樣，不能夠一步登天。一位女同學曾經對我說她的理想是找一個白馬王子，成為她的好妻子，過著幸福的生活，所以她現在就要作好準備，在各方面提高自己的素質。我們暫且不談論她的理想如何，我想表明的是理想不會是近在咫尺，唾手可得的，我們必須要有周詳的計劃，先訂定短期的目標，逐個往上爬，如果中途踏錯腳步，也不要氣餒，重新振作，梯子的頂端必定會越來越近。

在這裏，我只敢說：「經過一番努力，梯子的頂端近了。」事實上，我們要成功攀上終點還要有許多方面的配合哩。以下我會從家庭、學校和社會三方面建議如何幫助青年學生樹立及達成理想。

在家庭方面，父母的支援是十分重要的。現代的父母以為要培育子女，就要令他們身懷絕技，往往「十八般武藝」同時學，不論繪畫、彈琴、跳舞，打功夫，總之，那裡有班就有孩子去學，所謂「物極必反」，如果他們的子女根本對那些「武藝」沒有興趣，只怕導致反效果。他們可能會對這些東西，更糟的是對其他事物也失去興趣，對未來失去希望。所以父母應該跟子女多溝通，鼓勵他們選擇自己的興趣和理想，從旁引導他們走向目標。

在學校方面，教學政策應該針對培養學生的創造力，給予他們足夠的思考空間，從而辨識正確的人生路向，追尋理想。我們的教育長期以「考試」為中心，教師以「大綱」為依據，務求統一，方便評核，結果忽略了學生的需求；而學生也背負著沉重的課業，失去了思考的空間。理想？只會在作文時，天馬行空，胡亂吹嘘。所以教育的重要在於培養個性的發展，尤其是青年學生更加要積極地引導他們建立正確的人生觀，讓他們明白自己的價值，從而樹立合適他們的理想。

在社會方面，社會環境的氛圍也對青少年學生起了重要的影響。社會中應具有良好的成人模範，因為青少年對自己未來將成為一個怎樣的人不是完全的憑空臆想，在他們心中一般會有一個值得仿效的人物。大家對青年人都追崇偶像的瘋狂情況必定時有所聞，其實，他們是把自己的願望投射到自己喜歡的人身上，對他們的各種行為加以模仿。如果我們的社會能夠有一些值得青年效仿的成人榜樣，就可以引發青少年奮發向上，成為作為的人。近日一項調查報告顯示，香港的青年學生除了以歌手明星作為偶像外，原來陳方安生女士、曾蔭權先生和李嘉誠先生等也榜上有名，可見他們在青年人的心目中都有正面的形象。此外，社會也應該給予青年更多選擇的可能性，觀看著現在的社會環境，青年學生畢業即等於失業，他們不但對社會失去信心，也對自己失去信心，長此下去，整體社會的發展將呈現負面的狀態。所以我一方面希望社會經濟能逐漸好轉，另方面我也希望成年人能夠多一點接納和尊重我們的意見，給予我們試著的機會，那麼，我們才能學以致用，貢獻社會。
總之，正確的理想是一種強大的精神力量，它激發起我們的主動性和創造性，又鼓舞我們的鬥志。所以我們必須要有理想，前途才有希望；有了理想，生命才會有意義。在這過程中，我們必須大膽嘗試，認真思考、不怕艱辛、循序漸進，務求把實現理想的可能性擴大。我以某聖陶先生的一句話「理想是事實之母」跟大家互勉，希望大家也能立定志向，實現理想。

教師回憶：從理想的重要性到應有的態度方法，再談成功之道在於各方配合，層次井然，論據充足。全篇議論，說理，抒情，諷剌，忠告，期望兼而有之，洋洋灑灑，蔚為大觀。（黃桂秋老師）

賞析與思考：如作者所言，要實現理想需多方的配合；亦有人認為，在努力的過程中，我們還要學會「創造機會」和「抓住機會」，你對此有甚麼意見？
學生應怎樣裝備自己適應社會

6A 黃彩芳

很高興和大家談談「學生應怎樣裝備自己適應社會」。在未進入正題「怎樣裝備」之前，我們先看一看社會人士對一些大學生的評價：某大學校長斥責校內學生無禮貌、懶散；遲到早退；商界埋怨他們英文程度低；亦有僱主批評畢業生的求職信錯誤百出；大學生尚且如此，等而下之的，相信不用多講，為甚麼會這樣呢？皆因學生時代裝備不足！那麼，學生應該怎樣裝備自己呢？以下，我分六點說明。

第一， 立定遠大志向，積極面對人生。明代王陽明先生說：「志不立，天下無可成之事。」古今偉人，沒有一個不是自小就許下經國濟世的宏願，作為奮鬥的目標，因而具有「泰山崩於前而面不變」的素質。身為學生的我們，應該以他們為榜樣，這亦是裝備自己的一大前提。

第二， 打好學識基礎，豐富生活經驗。所謂「萬丈高樓從地起」，基礎是最重要的，基礎不穩固，一切都會虛於空談。我們應該透過學校全面而均衡的正規課程，提高不同領域的各種能力，應付日常所需。此外，多些留心身邊事物，經常關注社會時事，適當參與課外活動，都是裝備自己的途徑。

第三， 學好兩文三語，善於與人溝通。語文是人類傳情達意最直接、最有效的工具，重要性毋庸置疑。但怎樣學好呢？自然是多讀、多聽、多寫、多講。另外，踊躍參加演講、辯論、朗誦比賽，聽一聽名師專家的講座，同樣可以提升自己的語文水平。

第四， 掌握資訊科技，追上時代脈搏，資訊科技的發展，實在令人驚奇，而它帶來的實惠，相信大家都領受得到。難怪電視廣告那句話說：「要跟世界接觸，上網」。對我們學生來說，學會純熟而廣泛應用資訊科技，既可認識世界潮流新知，又可強化學習效益，更重要的是，有助我們終身學習。

第五， 培養良好品格，勇於承擔責任。這點的重要性，可謂不言而喻。不少人批評我們这一代欠缺責任感，公民意識薄弱，此說不無道理。因此，我們必須從德育及公民教育的學習之中，明白自己在不同崗位所擔當的角色和應履行的義務，好待他日致力貢獻國家及社會。

第六， 重視體育活動，鍛鍊強健體魄。有調查指出，香港學生體質是全東南亞最差的。試想想，一個人「三日唔喺，兩日唔病」，又怎能應付社會種種挑戰呢？要增強體質，最好是建立健康的生活方式，遠離不良嗜好，多做運動和注意飲食。

總言之，廿一世紀的香港，是一個知識型社會，是一個受資訊衝擊的社會，是一個事務急速變化的社會。為了適應以上變動，我們學生一定要及早把握機會，努力學習，學習基本知識，學習兩文三語，學習資訊科技，以至學習怎樣做人。各位，為了這些裝備，面對未來，我們還怕甚麼！

教師回顧：考慮周全，六項要求解說明瞭，說服力強，未段兩用排比，氣勢逼人。（黃桂秋老師）

賞析與思考：大學畢業生的能力與社會期望不相符，是近年坊間的共識。事實上，甚麼原因令他們未能達到社會的要求？是教育？是家庭？還是受整個社會氛圍影響？
如何在學校推廣廉潔活動

王妙琴

香港經濟一蹶不振，最近更被國際評級機構調低前景的級數。然而，談到廉潔，香港就「八達會」，即是連續八次被評為全球最廉潔地方之一。但有調查顯示，對廉潔運動認知最深的，是五十至六十歲的人，這可能是因他們受過貪污的感嘆吧！而認知最少的，是十至二十歲的一群，情況實在令人擔心。「百年大計，教育為本」，所以，在學校推廣廉潔運動是極其重要的，依我所見，可以從下列三方面着手。

第一，課程改革方面。學校現行的課程，涉及廉潔的課題寥寥可數，就算有也只是輕描淡寫，針不刺到肉又怎知痛呢？因此，我建議在課程中加上有關的教材，例如在歷史科加入廉政公署成立之前香港的狀況，以及廉政公署的作用和成績；在經濟科加入貪污對經濟的影響；在社會科加入貪污的禍害等等。

第二，公民教育方面。學校應多利用早會，或者舉行講座、比賽之類的活動，教導學生認識廉潔的重要性，不貪污，不行賄，勇於舉報，這樣做不單是守法的表現，更加是良好公民應有的責任。如果說香港的社會風氣是一件衫，那麼貪污行賄、妨礙司法公正這些破壞廉潔的行為就是衣服上的污漬，而學校的公民教育好比強力的清潔劑，作用是清除污漬，使我們的衣服保持光潔明麗，道理極為顯淺。

第三，宣傳活動方面。就我所知，廉政公署每年都會派人到學校宣傳，除此以外，不妨仿效警方的做法，在各校成立類似「少年警訊」的組織，稱為「廉潔快訊」也好，稱為「廉潔小先鋒」也好，總之通過招收會員，直接與學校接觸，把廉潔訊息更快、更準確傳達給學生。學生參與相關的活動，便不會「事不關己，己不勞心」了。以我自己為例，一直以來對「廉潔運動」都是一知半解，但參加今年演講比賽，在搜集資料的過程中，自然有了更深入的了解。

總括而言，學校是培養未來人才的地方，學生的意識和行為，都會影響香港的發展。要「經濟好，香港好」，「廉潔運動」必須先做得好。上面所說的三項，從課程改革到加強公民教育，再加上深化的宣傳活動，若果三管齊下，配合得宜，我深信廉潔運動必定可以在學校成功推行。

教師回憶：初段未見突破。首段的「國際評級」及「調查」應說明出處以增說服力。次段「教育」的例子和事實有距離，似未經考證。段末三段的比喻似意可取，但「學校的」公民教育如何有助消除香港社會不良風氣，未見明言。（黃桂枝老師）

賞析與思考：你知道香港廉潔運動的歷史嗎？廉潔對社會有何影響？
青年學生談理想

究竟青年人應抱有何種理想呢？怎樣的理想才是正確偉大呢？當然，每個人的理想都是不同的，有小有大，有個人化的以至世界的，在大學——書，有所謂“修身、齊家、治國、平天下”。古人以此作為建業立業的四個層次。現在，我想以這個理念做藍本，嘗試從個人、社群、世界三個層面推發我對「理想」的一些見解。

個人的理想是要單為自己，也可以是獨及他人的。但在「修身」的原則下，我想青年人應該將個人的理想定為這一點，大一點，我想校的校監陳樹渠博士有句「四好」名言，就是：立好志，讀好書，學好咎，做好事。我覺得這句話對我們青年學生而言，是一個非常正面的理想追求的指標，是一個修身立己的方法。能夠正確地建立個人的理想，就不致隨波逐流，不會在人生路上迷失方向。

其次講社群方面的理想，社群理想就是在一個小至家庭，大至國家的社會，乃至各成員同時渴望達致的共同目標。記得在我升讀中四那年，老師感慨地提醒我們：現今青年人處事，往往先考慮一己的私利，而無視社群的公利，真是可悲！他勉勵我們做人要有「為人服務」的理想，努力上進，將來才可以為社會，甚至為國家作出貢獻。我們的國父孫中山先生，他原本讀醫科，畢業後十八時兩行醫，賺個盤滿砵滿。但他在理學佐佑社會方面，為著中國同胞的「民族、民權、民生」，無私地獻出一生。類似的人物，遠至伊尹，孔子，近至德蘭修女、曼德拉等等，實在數不勝數，都是值得我們青年學生仿效的。

建立了個人理想，也懂得顧及社群理想後，我們便可以把理想放眼世界。這種理想，是指為了人類的文明進步，邁向美好未來而奮鬥的目標。前人之所以不斷學習和研究，創造出各個不同的新事物，我們並非單為自己的名利而奮鬥，而是為著人類的福祉而奮鬥的。你看「發明大王」愛迪生，救人無數的醫聖張飛，發明放射性元素鑽的居里夫人，還有「光纖之父」高锟教授，他們沒有一個不是自小就許下宏願，以推進世界文明為職志的，我們身為青年學生，真是應該向他們好好學習。

如果我們將個人的理想想作幾何學上的「點」，社會的理想便是「線」，而世界的理想，就是承托起產品的「面」了，沒有點不能成線，沒有線就交織不成面，各位青年朋友，就讓我們一齊從個人的「點」開始，努力裝備自己，一齊向着世界的「面」奮力邁進吧！

教師回饋：由小而大，層層指進，這種「理想」，可以是好的問題是：知易行難。其實是有正確的「知」也不易，如何實踐？遇到挫折又如何辦？若理想不等於現實，又該何去何從？以上各項，不妨仔細思量。（黃桂秋老師）

賞析與思考：文末以「點」、「線」、「面」的概念詮釋理想在社會的層級表現，你認同這個說法嗎？
傳媒對公眾的影響力

伍詠儀

隨著社會不斷進步，資訊越來越發達，大眾傳媒成為了生活不可缺少的一部分，它為忙碌的我們提供各類訊息。近來本港掀起了連串的政治風波，標榜瘦身性感的廣告泛濫於市，觸發不少人反思傳媒所扮演的角色和社會責任。

要了解傳媒的威力，必先知道它的重要性。傳媒，指我們身邊一切的報章、雜誌、電影、電視、電子網絡等等，具有極強的公共性，並且負著許多社會功能。如果沒有傳媒，社會上各類活動，包括政治、經濟、文化、宗教、消遣娛樂等，必然受到嚴重影響。

然而，市民最關心的，並非傳媒這個「硬體」，而是它內在蘊含的訊息。要知道，傳媒既是由人主導，當中的價值觀直接影響我們對事物真相的了解。舉個例，青少年好奇心重，模仿力強，但心智發展尚未成熟，若傳媒的報導失實，或經常發放含有色情、暴力和不道德成分的資訊，他們可能會不知不覺地受到薰染。有調查指出，有些少兒為了保持纖纖身材而過份節食，結果導致營養不良，部分甚至患上厭食症。這些誤導，傳媒實在責無旁貸。

此外，傳媒假若捨本逐末，為求刺激銷量，不惜譙啞性取寵，同樣會帶來不良風氣。不少學者批評本港一些報章雜誌，為了滿足市民的好奇心，揭發名人的私事，濫染實情，甚至扭曲事實。市民如果不懂得批判反思，誤信為真，長此下去，不僅文化品味降低，更可能促進犯罪風氣。

當然，世事無絕對，只要取得平衡，傳媒同樣能夠帶來正面的影響。再舉個例，傳媒有助學生快捷地取得各種資訊，從而擴闊視野，認識社會和世界，滿足求知慾之餘，更可提高學習興趣。不少師長便是利用傳媒，如紀錄片、新聞時事節目等作為輔助教材，由此可见，傳媒可以發揮良性的影響力。

最後，我想談一談傳媒的社會責任。傳媒的真實、正確、客觀和公平的報導其實是對市民的保障，能夠維護公眾利益。在沙士爆發期間，傳媒忠實地報導疫情，讓市民防範警惕，做好防疫措施。市民更為_related_ 醫護人員出錢出力。在經濟低迷的環境下，整個香港突然變得團結起來，這並不反映了傳媒的積極作用嗎？

總括而言，傳媒由於對公眾的影響力極大，故此必須意識到自己的角色和社會責任，在現存的法律和制度下，嚴格自我約束，這樣，才能真正服務大眾，發揮功能。
學生應怎樣裝備自己適應社會

7A  陳嘉莉

97年香港回歸祖國，我第一個感覺，就是裝備自己從「無根的一代」，成為堂堂正正的中華民國公民。過去幾年，香港社會急劇轉變：知識型經濟發展，全球一體化催生，內部與外圍因素的衝擊和綜合，影響着每一個市民。作為學生的我們，對「怎樣裝備自己」這六個字必然產生新的體會，今日正好藉比賽交流一下，而我的意見有以下幾點。

第一、珍惜教育機會，努力學習。此刻的香港，儘管面臨極大的困難——經濟低迷，失業大軍日積月累。然而同等人可獲得教育的機會，遠遠大於世界其他地方，乃至中國大陸，畢竟多得多。人，最可貴的，是懂得珍惜，珍惜現在擁有的。除此之外，更要努力學習，不可懈怠，否則你的興趣在文、在理、在商，都要不斷學習，終身學習。這是裝備自己的前提，也是最重要的第一步。

第二、掌握英文三語，以利溝通。語言文字是人類溝通的最基本工具，香港既是中國的特別行政區，也是一個國際城市，面對這一知識型經濟下的社會，我們需要的再不只是大量的勞工，而是一批批的人才。學生要裝備自己成為人才，就必須掌握英文三語。在背靠中國，面向世界的特殊環境下，才可以利於溝通，加強競爭力，更能左右逢源，發揮橋樑的作用。

第三、適應世界潮流，掌握資訊。在這個資訊發達的年代，任何人都避不開，躲不掉。這股潮流風卷世界，雖然在偏遠貧瘠地方，受影響較慢一些，但卻會因此而付上沉重代價。我們要懂得掌握資訊，愈是有利正確判斷，洞悉先機。明乎此，我們要適應世界潮流，學習資訊科技，利用資訊科技，從學科知識開始，進而留心時事，只有在不斷拓闊視野的情況下，才能立足香港，胸懷祖國，放眼世界。

第四、培養刻苦品質，靈活拼博。我要強調，我們年青的一代，非常幸運，成長在香港經濟的繁榮期。社會的居住、醫療、教育、物質都比較好，正因如此，易產生一種錯覺，認為這一切是必然的。要知道，我們今天的幸福生活，正是建基於上一代的刻苦耐勞和靈活拼博，我們在享受這些成果之餘，除了要感謝我們先輩的艱辛奮鬥，福蔭後人外，更要居安思危，學習和繼承前人這種可貴的精神，尤其是香港今天處於經濟不景這個嚴峻的境地。「明天會更好」究竟是口號抑或化為事實，關鍵就在這裏。

我相信，我們學生若能做到上述四點，不單可以裝備自己去適應社會，更可令香港百尺竿頭，更進一步，延續「東方之珠」的神話。

教師回饋：社會時事趨勢，個人處境現況，皆了然於胸，發而為文，謂成高論。小議題命四類齊備，別具心思。（黃桂秋老師）

賞析與思考：作者提出的四點自強建議，我們應否加上「認清自己的強弱項」作為前提呢？
畢業禮致謝詞

7B 郭 晶

今日我非常榮幸能夠代表應屆所有畢業同學和大家講幾句話。

時光飛逝，我們奮力向前，期待已久的畢業禮終於到來，但同時，我們亦即將要離開生活多年的母校，不捨之情總是難免的。回望過去，課室內埋頭苦幹的情形、小憩和午膳時間的談笑聲、陸運會震耳的歡呼喝采聲……一切都猶如我們回味無窮。

一向以來，母校為我們提供了良好的學習環境、精采的課外活動和至為重要的優良師資。近幾年，母校在多方面的進步和發展，有目共睹。

老師，你們付出心血和精力，默默支持我們，無懼風雨，決不言棄；縱然在學習的過程當中，我們未必能夠達到你們的要求，你們仍然盡心教導，循循善誘，但從來都沒有要求過任何回報，實在是值得我們衷心感激的。

更重要的是，學校的發展，若果沒有了領導者對教育理想的堅持，很多目標也不易達成。在此，我們謹向校董會主席、陳校監、各位校董，以及招校長致以最真誠的謝意。

今天之後，我們將各奔前程，有些繼續升學，有些踏出社會工作，無論如何，我們一定不會忘記母校的栽培，更加不會忘記師長的訓誡。我們將秉承陳校長博士的遺訓「立好志，讀好書，學好人，做好事」，努力不懈，誠如陳校長所應積極鼓勵和支持香港各體育團體舉辦本地及國際性賽事，這不僅可以運動員提升自我的機會，對吸引市民參與運動也極有幫助。

最後，祝願母校聲譽昌隆，各位身心健康，多謝！

教員回贈：情深意切，大方得體。本段三度承諾，盡顯自律、自勉、自信、自豪，震驚人心。（黃桂秋老師）

賞析與思考：本篇有感懷，有別情，有謝意，有信譽，可以用一個甚麼字來貫串？
ENGLISH WRITINGS

Dear Diary,

Friday, when I woke up, I found that the weather was very bad. Typhoon signal number 3 was issued. The wind was very strong outside. I left my house and wanted to go to school by 10th. My umbrella broke and I was walking on the street, so I got very wet.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
A Speech On “Heroes”

1A Carol Chan

The topic that I have chosen to write about is heroes. Let’s think here for a minute, who are these heroes? Well, they are usually the people who are remembered for their bravery and strength or goodness; they are admired for an act of courage in difficult times.

When I look at this definition, in my heart, I think the doctors and nurses who helped the SARS patients are the true Hong Kong heroes. This is because they were so brave and their professionalism and attitudes were so great. Many of them had to stay away from their families and friends, which is not easy to do especially in time of crisis.

There were also quite a few of them who got themselves infected and a few of them who even lost their lives. Some of them had to work for hours without a break, but they did not complain. At that time they had to sacrifice a lot for others. They have shown us that our society is not just a society, which only cares about making money, but which also cares about the people and these might not be their families, they might be strangers.

These are the people who have shown us, the Hong Kong people and all others around the world how one should behave at the time of crisis.

They have been true to their profession and have behaved with a very unselfish attitude.

I would therefore like to use today as an opportunity to salute to them, for their dedication to their work and to the people of Hong Kong, and would also like to appreciate their families who stood by them.

To me, these doctors and nurses of Hong Kong possess the qualities that make them the TRUE HEROES!

Teacher’s Feedback: It is a well-written piece of speech. It shows that you are very much a part of the society and are affected when there is a crisis. I agree with you that the doctors and nurses are the true heroes. (Mrs. Sophie Urs)

Food For Thought: By imitating the format and language used for writing a formal speech, try to write something about your true hero! Read it to your English teacher or classmates for sharing!
If I Were Water  

1A Fong Ka Wing

If I were water, I could go anywhere easily. I could change to clouds, rain and streams. Then I could be very free.

Water is very useful. People can drink it, bath in it, plant the plants and clean the houses or cars.

Water can fly in the sky and then changed to clouds. If the water droplets in clouds are too heavy, they will fall down in the sea and swimming pools. As a result, I thought I might flow through the “subway” and to your home. You will use me to clean the house, have a bath or some other washing jobs. Now, I think the life of water is very poor because people always use water to do this and that.

Water is like a slave to help us with the daily chores. I hope people can save the water and treasure it.

Teacher’s Feedback:  This imaginative writing shows high levels of linguistic control. The life of water is described in a lively way. Good! (Mrs. Sophie Urs)

Food For Thought:  Having the ability to imagine is the best gift for human. Other than water, what would you like to be? Sit back and close your eyes to enter into another episode of your fantasy world.
Report On School Clubs

My name is Wilson Wong. I am in Class 1B. I am interested in joining the Sports Club and the Computer Club. I am not interested in joining the Drawing Club.

I want to join the Sports Club because I like playing basketball and football. Also, I am always free on Friday. The Club meets on Fridays. I want to join the Computer Club because I like playing computer games and writing my homepage. I am always free on Tuesday.

I do not want to join the Drawing Club because I don’t like drawing and painting. Also, I have something to do on Wednesday. I am never free on Wednesday.

Teacher’s Feedback: As a piece of writing from F.1, it’s quite comprehensive! You can elaborate more on the activities of the club. (Miss Amy Lai)
Food For Thought: Would you like to be an all-rounder who can excel at both academic and extra-curricular activities? Not sure? Do accept it as a challenge and set it as your goal for the years ahead!
A Get Well Letter

Dear Jackie,

Hello, Jackie! I’ve just heard that you got the SARS virus. I’m sorry to hear that.

Don’t worry, I think you can get well soon. After your recovery, we can travel to Hawaii during the summer holidays as before.

In Hong Kong, the SARS epidemic is not serious now. There are a few people getting SARS every day only and sometimes the number of cases can be zero. Good news, right? According to the doctors, we can keep away from the SARS virus by washing our hands regularly, have enough sleep, do more exercises and wear face masks.

I hope you will get well soon. I will go to Canada to visit you later. Remember, do more exercises and eat healthy food! Bye-bye!

Love
Windy

Teacher’s Feedback: You can write more touching sentences to comfort your friend. (Miss Amy Lai)

Food For Thought: How would you respond to this letter if you were Jackie? Use this opportunity to learn the format for writing a letter!
My Favourite Country

Since childhood, I have been thinking of going there. This country is Japan.

Japan is near South Korea. People usually travel to Japan by plane. It takes about 3 or 4 hours. There are about twelve million people in Japan. In Japan, we can see many tall buildings, large department stores, famous hotels and hot springs. Japanese are very polite and friendly. Besides, the famous food in Japan is sushi. There are many different types of sushi and they taste delicious.

I want to go there because I want to wear the traditional Japanese dress, kimono. I hope that I can wear it to pray for my future in the temples. In addition, I like to go shopping in the department stores.

Indeed, there are many places to go in Japan and I am sure you will enjoy it.
My Dream House

Everyone has the house of one's dreams. One may want a big house, others may want grand ones with lots of luxurious furniture and facilities. However, some may prefer simply a clean and quiet house.

For me, I just want to live in a house which is near McDonald’s and a supermarket because Uncle McDonald can sing and dance in my house and buying food is made convenient if I live right next to a supermarket. Behind my house, I need parking space for two cars, one for my dad’s car and another one for his trailer. In the trailer, there are two beds, a toilet, a kitchen, a TV set and a computer that bring me up to date with current news and information.

I want my house to be surrounded by many plants. In front of the house, there is a swing. I believe many children love playing swings, of course, including me. The swing can move automatically. This is how it will work. First, sit on the swing and then push the button to adjust the height and angle. Isn’t it convenient? Second, near the swing is an outdoor teahouse. I can eat and drink in outdoors and I will eat my favourite food - ice-cream there.

In my dream house, there are five rooms with two bathrooms. There will be two sets of television and a robot for helping household chores. The five rooms are for my family and my friends. Since I don’t want to argue with my family members, I want to have two toilets in my house. I don’t want to argue with my members over which television programme to watch, I need two television sets. Finally, all the chores will be done by a robotic helper and I hope it will help me with my homework too.

The most important thing is that the house should be covered with different kinds of candy trees. The candies on the trees will grow like plants and there will be many kinds for me to choose from so that I will never get tired of them.

Living in a house with so many wonderful things around, I will surely enjoy my life more.

Teacher’s Feedback: Good imagination! It is surely a grand dream! (Miss Louisa Chan)
Food For Thought: Housing problem is always an issue in Hong Kong. High-rise buildings are built to accommodate our citizens but living in houses in Hong Kong has become a luxury to many locals. Having a grand house is a grand dream. Can you design your dream house after reading this imaginative work? You may become the world’s greatest architecture, who knows!
Dear Jackie,

Are you alright now? I’m sorry to hear that you have been infected by the SARS virus. I think that you will feel lonely and scared in the hospital, won’t you? Anyway, don’t be afraid, calm down and be optimistic. God will be with us anytime and he will arrange everything for us.

Let me tell you the SARS figure in Hong Kong now. There are twelve people killed by this virus. Everywhere, people are panicking. Luckily, Hong Kong people are very unified although everyone is worried about it. Also, there are some benevolent people who donate money to people who are in need in this critical moment.

To fight SARS, we have to do a lot to protect our health. For instance, we should wear a mask and use liquid soap to wash our hands. We have to measure our body temperature before we go to school. I think it can be troublesome to do everything, but when we do all these things, we can protect ourselves and reduce the workload of doctors and nurses. So, I am willing to do all these things.

Hey! Have you learnt anything during this period? I have learnt what sacrifice means. I see many doctors and nurses devote all their time to take care of the patients and they raise no complaints. Also, when I know that some doctors and nurses are infected by SARS, I feel bad. However, they are really my ‘Heroes’ because of their bravery and professionalism.

How about you? What do you think? Share your feeling with me. I hope you will get better soon.

Love
Peggy
A Country That I Want To Visit 2C Cindy Tang

If I have a chance, I will visit Japan because Japan is my dream country. I read books about this country. From books, I learnt about the interesting topics on food, cultures and entertainment in Japan, which I may share with my friends. Japanese culture is very popular in Hong Kong. Japanese products such as clothes, food, music and movies are everywhere in Hong Kong.

Hong Kong people like to eat Western food like pizzas, hamburgers and fries. The traditional Japanese diet is, however, very different. Most people there eat rice with every meal and their favourite food is fish. Their most famous dish is sushi. The traditional Japanese diet is very healthy because it is high in protein and low in fat.

The Japanese bow to one another when they meet. Some people bow lower than others, depending on their social positions. The Japanese always take off their shoes before they go into their house. They wear special slippers inside the house.

The traditional Japanese sport is sumo wrestling. Sumo wrestlers eat a great amount of food each day in order to get bigger.

I really want to visit Japan.

Teacher’s Feedback: The organisation is quite good. But some of the points can be further elaborated. This is a piece of promising work. Keep it up! (Miss Miranda Wong)

Food For Thought: What about your dream country? Do you share the same feeling with Cindy?
My Favourite Person

3A Eric Wan

The person I like most is called Wen Jiabao. He is an intelligent man who is slim and tall. He has bright eyes, small nose and an oval shaped face. There are a few wrinkles to be seen on his forehead. He usually wears western suit to appear in public. Who is Wen Jiabao? He is the Vice Premier of China!

He was a graduate of Geology. He joined the Communist Party of China in 1967. After a few years, he was sent to the west of China to develop minerals. Since then, he has made a lot of important discoveries to increase the rate of minerals mined. This is a great achievement for him because our whole country make more profit by selling minerals to other countries. Step by step, he was promoted to the Beijing Government to be the director of a department.

In his daily life, his hobbies are reading and writing poems. “Reading is not only enjoyable but rewarding too. It helps me to know more about the world.” He said. I like his working spirits most and he became my favourite person since he allocated 500 billions on children education in China, settled the problems of international trade and built a good relationship between China and America. He is good at writing poems to show his love for China. I believe that he can lead our country to be rich and strong. I trust him.

Teacher’s Feedback: Good! You’ve done some research into Mr. Wen’s history. The writing is clear and informative. (Mrs. Lilian Downey)
Food For Thought: Who is your favourite person in life? Some may choose their parents while others may choose their teachers. Having the Vice Premier as an idol is surely a mature choice. It will be more fruitful if we can learn from these successful people in the world.
If I Were Rich

I wish I could be a rich man and have lots of money. If I would have a lot of money, I would do the following things.

Firstly, I would buy a very big and grand house for my family so that we can live very comfortably. Also, if I had a bigger house, I could live together with my grandmother. She is living with my aunt now but I hope I can live with her.

Secondly, I would travel round the world. I love travelling and really want to visit a lot of countries because I want to learn more from different countries and their cultures.

Then, if I were rich, I would save some money as education fund for myself and my family. I would like my brother to study overseas. I hope we both can have a good education so that we will find a good job.

Lastly, I will donate some money to the charities. There are a lot of people who need our help. In some countries, children cannot eat enough or they don’t have enough money to go to school. It is a pity for them! If I were rich, I would certainly give them a chance to receive education. This can be achieved if I could set up an international children’s education fund.

Teacher’s Feedback: Fluent and written with good sentence structures.
(Miss Louisa Chan)

Food For Thought: What would you do if you were rich is perhaps a question that you might have been asked many times before. Becoming rich is one thing, how to make good use of your fortune is another. It would certainly be a grand idea if your wealth will be spent on children’s education. Don’t you feel the same?
My Idol

Michael Jordan is the world's top sports stars. He is also the greatest basketball player.

Jordan was born in USA in 1963. When he was a child, his favourite sport was football, not basketball. Since his mother bought him a basketball, he became interested in playing basketball. When he was studying in high school, he was a leader of the school basketball team. After finishing his study, a lot of NBA teams wanted Jordan to join them. Finally, Jordan joined the "Chicago Bulls" and started his basketball career.


Jordan is an outstanding athlete with a unique combination of grace, speed, power, artistry and special ability.

But the key to Jordan's success is his mind, not his power. His motto to success is "Get your chance, take your shot."

Teacher's Feedback: Very informative. Good that you've done some research into Jordan's background and history. But you should explain why you admire him more explicitly. (Mrs. Lilian Downey)

Food For Thought: Will it be just too simple and naïve to choose your idol simply because he has a handsome face? Would it or should it be something else? What are your criteria for choosing your idol?