

Good English Writing by S2B Bosco Wong Ki Cheung (31)

A story about a mysterious event

In a beautiful morning, a farmer called John woke up and sat on the rooftop of his small house as usual. John was reading comics... while lying under the sunlight. "It's a beautiful day today! Perhaps I should just rest here the whole day instead of farming!" He said to himself excitedly.

Suddenly, a flying object which took the shape of an UFO flew across the sky. "Why is there a spaceship ruining the good view? I hate astronauts." Annoyed by the UFO, John complained to himself. Then he jumped off from the rooftop and drove his small truck to where the UFO landed.

After a while, John arrived at a forest and got off his vehicle. Before John attempted on yelling at the spaceship, a few short green creatures walked out of it. Realizing they were actually aliens and not astronauts, John immediately hid behind a tree and watched them secretly. "Oh God! Aliens are real?" John thought to himself in panic. "I hope they will leave soon without harming me!" he added.

After an hour had passed, the aliens finally returned to their ship. Then they flew away from the Earth. Still shocked by the sudden appearance of unknown creatures, John pulled out an iPhone 11 and called the police. After he ended the call, one of the aliens who had sneaked behind him poked his back with his tentacle-shaped fingers. John quickly turned behind. "Mom! Save me!" He screamed as he noticed the alien. "Ugly human, what is that on your hand? It looks like an iPhone 11! May I have it?" the alien spoke in a sharp voice. John was just staring at him in fear and could not utter any response. "That's a hundred percent 'yes'!" The alien casually stole John's phone at bullet-speed. Then he walked away as if nothing happened.

Finally, John told everything to the police. However, not even a single soul believed him and decided to lock John up in a mental hospital.

Good English Writing by S2C Chung Chun Fung Daniel (9)

Profile of a young successful person

When we face problems, some of us will try to overcome it, but most of us just escape it. Today, I am going to talk about a legendary man who never gives up – Nick Vujicic.

Nick was born without fully formed limbs, which he can only use the toes of one of his feet as fingers to grab. Once he tried to commit suicide at age 10 in this bathtub because he felt like there was no hope and there would never be happiness. After he was saved, his mom showed him a newspaper article about a woman praying with a severe disability when he was 17. He started to give talks at his prayer group. Now, Nick has given uncountable talks to everyone with perseverance and determination.

Nick is an inspiring man, every talk he gave had brought much positive energy to everyone. His encouragement affected me too. When I was 6, I lost in the speech festival competition. I had butterflies in my stomach as I was desperate to win and get a medal from the contest. At that moment, I watched a Youtube video about interviewing with a man without all limbs. He was playing a tennis ball to show his skills. I was encouraged by him and I practised harder and harder. Finally, I won the champion when I was 11. (It is real).

Nick's honest, true words touched me. He told us never give up and we could achieve everything if we keep trying and be positive. 'Instead of looking at everything I lacked, I decided to look at anything I could have.' He said.

Good English Writing by S2C To Hiu Wing (27)

A story about a mysterious event

This story happened a few years ago. There was a young and hard-working farmer called Jake, who never believed in the existence of aliens. But then, he saw a mysterious event happened, he had changed his mind and then scared of the aliens. What exactly happened to him? Let me tell you this story.

One nice, warm afternoon, since Jake finished his work in the farm, he was very tired and took a rest on the roof. After a while, Jake sent shivers down his spine by the weird sound. 'What was that noise?' Jake wondered. Meanwhile, he also saw a silver glitter emitted white light in the woods, where it was not far away from his house. 'Wait... is that a flying ship? It is impossible. I must go to the woods and find out the truth...' he said. Jake was driven by his curiosity and decided to go there to investigate.

Half an hour later, Jake drove his truck and finally arrived to the woods. After getting off the car, he saw a big, silver and egg-shaped ship on the ground. '...Even though this ship is only a property for filming. There aren't any actress or people...' Jake mumbled. After a few minutes, some strange noises came out from the flying ship, Jake was totally terrified and he hid into tussocky immediately.

Next, Jake was very confused and couldn't believe in his eyes. It was because he saw some aliens which were grey, short and had antenna on their heads coming out from the ship. 'What!?!...The aliens are real!...' he whispered and felt a chill down his spine. Those aliens seemed like chatting with each other. Then, they took out some spanners, screw drivers from the ship and started to repair the flying ship together. Soon, the aliens fixed the ship quickly and went back to the spaceship.

When Jake thought that the aliens were all gone, he picked up his phone and called the police. 'Hello?... Is this the police...police station?...' Jake said in a shaky voice. Suddenly, Jake felt something Jelly like tentacle patted his shoulder. 'Are you alright? You seem scared of something.' The alien asked it softly. '...I am...fine...I just saw...some aliens only...wait...' stammered Jake. Jake slowly turned his head, he saw an alien again! Jake was extremely terrified and he quickly ran away from the alien. At the end, Jake got back to his home and he never saw any aliens again.

Good English Writing by S2C To Hiu Wing (27)

Bring back fresh air!

Do you know what is the most serious pollution problem in Hong Kong? It is air pollution, which affects our daily life in numerous ways.

One of the main causes of the pollution is the burning of fossil fuels. For instance, the sulfur dioxide emitted from the combustion of fossil fuels and the petroleum used for generating energy in power plants. In addition, the pollutants emitted from the motor vehicles, lead to a high level of pollution in the atmosphere. More importantly, the air pollutants also have bad effects towards human beings. Nitrogen dioxide, one of the pollutants produced by the power stations and vehicles, can cause irritation to our noses, throats, eyes or skins. Heart diseases, lung cancer and other respiratory diseases are the other health effects caused by the air pollution. Since the level of air pollution in Hong Kong is getting higher and higher, it is necessary for us to carry out solutions to deal with this problem.

First, it is known that transportation is the main source of air pollution, thus it is good for us to take more public transports instead of private cars. Furthermore, electric car is also a good choice since it does not rely on fossil fuels.

Second, we should reduce the usage of energy. For example, we can conserve energy by turning off lights when they are not in use, or we can buy the electrical appliances with high energy efficiency, such as energy-saving washing machine.

In short, air pollution is a serious environmental problem in Hong Kong and it endangers our quality of health. It is essential for us to take actions as soon as possible. Energy conservation is an effective way to reduce the level of air pollution. Since most of the air pollutants are from vehicles and power plants, therefore we should take more public transports and replace the household appliances with the energy efficient appliances. By reducing the use of energy, the pollutants produced will be greatly reduced. Let's make Hong Kong to be a cleaner city.

Good English Writing by S2C To Hiu Wing (27)

Should students wear school uniforms to school?

Some students think that school uniforms are uncomfortable and children should have the freedom to express their personality through the clothing. While some people argued that wearing casual clothing instead of wearing school uniforms can help to enhance one's confidence. However, I think that it is totally not appropriate for students to wear casual clothing to school. Let me tell the reasons.

First of all, students with school uniforms can be easier to focus in class. If students are allowed to wear casual clothing, they will be distracted from their studies. They will likely to spend time on talking about the latest trends of clothes. It will waste the time for doing their schoolwork. In addition, if students are allowed to wear other clothes to school, they will spend more time on choosing clothes instead of studying. Thus, it will badly affect the academic performance.

Second, as I mentioned before, the students may spend a long time on choosing clothes to wear to school. If they are not allowed to wear other clothes to school, then there is no pressure on deciding what to wear on daily basis in the morning. It can also save a lot of time for students. Furthermore, parents may spend less money on buying clothes. There is less pressure on buying expensive brand-name clothing since the school uniforms are more affordable.

Another reason is that wearing school uniforms for children can help them to create a sense of identity and unity among the school students. Poor students would no longer feel excluded because they are not wearing name-brand clothes like the richer kids. In general, when children are wearing similar uniform, they won't compete with each other. Children who cannot afford to wear expensive clothes won't feel insecure.

To summarise, allowing students to wear casual clothes to school may cause distraction from their studies. Besides, it will bring more pressure to students on choosing clothes to wear to school and parents need to spend more money on it too. Also, wearing school uniforms can help to improve student's individualities and their self-esteem. Therefore, I think that we should not allow students to wear casual clothes to school.

Good English Writing by S2C To Hiu Wing (27)

Waste-free Christmas!

Christmas has always been a holiday for giving presents to your family and friends. Everyone who celebrates Christmas tends to be more giving and generous since it is a holiday for celebrating love, forgiveness and joy. Unfortunately, over the years, the idea of giving has become more materials than moral. It has become a business venture for brands where the goal is selling as much as they can. As a result of aggressive branding, people consume overmuch. It also has bad effects on the environment with a shocking amount of wastes produced in a short time.

One of the main causes is the food wastes problem. We end up wasting 3600 tons of food wastes around Christmas each year and it is equivalent of over 8.5 million meals! To solve this problem, we should donate the excess food to some charities, such as Feeding Hong Kong and Festival Food Drive. Moreover, we can get the right portion of food while having Christmas buffets and parties.

Another cause is the paper waste problem. As we use wrapping papers and packaging for presents, the more paper wastes we make. Therefore, the consumers shouldn't buy products with excess packaging. Also, we can use old newspapers to wrap the presents instead of buying the new papers, in addition, we can send e-cards to our friends too!

The last cause is that the light problem. The light pollution in Christmas is very serious because of the strong lights emitted from the shops and houses. Christmas lights is one of the electronic wastes. Thus, we should use less Christmas lights and try to use other decorations.

Finally, it is necessary for us to save the environment. Wrapping papers, tin foils, plastic packaging and lights, they are the things that we should use less. Try to reduce, reuse and recycle everything that we used for Christmas so that we can have a cleaner Earth for this amazing holiday!

Good English Writing by S3B Cheung Chun Ling Janet (3)

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I'm writing to express my concerns about the topic "should Chinese restaurant serve shark fin soup?". It lets me down every time when I see people ordering shark fin soup in the restaurant.

People always said that they wanted to be a more environmentally friendly person. However, many of them are still ordering shark fin soup in restaurants. I strongly believe that Chinese restaurants should not serve shark fin soup anymore.

To put an end to the phenomenon that eating shark fin is an ancient custom which shows their social status, it is essential that we should start from educating the city's older generation. The city's older generation may think eating shark fins can show that you are a wealthy person. Yet is this necessary to show others that you are rich? I believe that having a kind heart is way more important than having a lot of money nowadays. Is this worth showing your wealthiness but losing the respect of others for you? I don't think so.

Indeed, according to a WWF survey, the volume of shark fin served in Hong Kong dropped almost 35% this year to 161 kg. But almost every caterer still offered shark fin on their menus, the conservation body found. This is mainly because the customers still want the delicacy and the restaurant owners don't want to lose business. In this case, why don't the restaurant serve vegetarian shark's fin soup instead? These dishes are made of gelatin. They are much cheaper than the real one and taste exactly the same.

I agree that we should preserve traditional Chinese culture – but not every aspect of it. We all should be more open-minded and show concern for our environment too. Let's say no to shark fin.

Yours faithfully,

Janet Cheung

Janet Cheung

Good English Writing by S5D Tang Ho Fung (28)

2020-2021 Yearly Exam_Paper 2

You recently attended your cousin's wedding at which shark fin soup was served. You support the campaign against the consumption of shark fins but, because you did not want to make a fuss at the wedding, you ate the soup. Write a speech to give to your classmates, explaining the dilemma you faced and saying what you would normally do if served shark fin soup.

Good morning, everyone. I am sure that you've all been to weddings before, with all the glamouring lights and endless chatter. But among them is an enemy, shark fin soup. Shark fin soup is a common dish on wedding menus. If you hadn't been living under a rock, you would know that the harvesting of shark's fin is among the cruelest. Sharks have their fins chopped off and then thrown back into the ocean, where they will most likely die an agonizing death.

One thing that happened to me during my cousin's wedding was that I ate real shark fin soup. During the feast, shark fin soup was served. It had suddenly came to my realization that I forgot shark fin soup was on the menu, otherwise, I would not have come. I tried to hide my face of disgust at first but when the waitress was serving my portion, I couldn't hold it any longer. My brows wrinkled and I recoiled to the soup, it was as if I could taste the shark's painful, dying breath. The relatives who were sitting with me at the table saw this and were all looking at me. I felt embarrassed and I didn't want to make a fuss at my cousin's wedding. So, I held my breath, silenced my thoughts, and drank the soup. I was caught in a dilemma, and I succumbed to the morally wrong choice. That being said, if this had happened to you, what would you do? In my case, after the wedding, I went back home and thought of a few ways to get out of the dilemma, which I am going to share with you.

The first method is just simply pass the soup on to another person. When the soup is served, ask around the table if they want an extra bowl of soup. You give them the soup and the problem is solved. Though you shouldn't hold a prejudice towards whom you gave the soup to, because they just did you a favour. This is the simplest method, but it doesn't rot out the core of the problem, which is the serving of shark fin soup at wedding.

Another method is to just not go to the wedding where shark fin soup is served. After you've read the menu of the wedding feast and you see the soup on the list, while it's rude to deny someone's wedding invitation, there is really no other better option. However, you are forced to be that guy who holds a grudge towards every tiny thing, this is another method, but it's require you to be the villain. So that leaves me to wonder, is there a better way to solve this?

Environmental activists have paid tremendous efforts in order to keep this blood-stained dish out of restaurant doors, from protests to educating the public. And thanks to their work, there has been an upsurge of wedding menus that either doesn't include shark fin soup or uses synthetic fins for the soup. The next time that you receive a wedding invitation, ask the hosts whether they chose a shark fin-free set or not. If they have, rejoice! Rejoice, as they are a part of the brothers and sisters who act out against such brutal murder of the ocean's

apex life form. Rejoice, as this symbolizes the lives of a thousand sharks spared. However, if they had opted for one with real shark fins, convince them to opt for a more peaceful option instead, explain to them the hellish process that sharks have to go through after their fins are harvested. And maybe they'll change their minds.

In the end, sharks shouldn't have to suffer because of our greed. We mustn't condone these shark killing exercises. We must strive for the banishment of these dishes from our restaurants through any legal means whether it be through legislation or education, even protesting if need be. If you wish to stop shark violence, you should consider joining any anti-shark fin groups as an activist.

This is all for my speech. Thank you for your precious time.

Good English Writing by S5D Wong Ching Wa (29)

2020-2021 Yearly Exam_Paper 2

You are concerned about the amount of household waste that is produced in Hong Kong. Write a letter to the editor of the Hong Kong Express, saying why you think the problem is serious and what should be about it.

Dear Editor,

I am writing to express my opinions on the seriousness of household waste problems and the effective ways to stop the problem from being exacerbated. In recent days, the amount of household waste is mushrooming and this phenomenon has been blossoming from a relatively unknown trend into the talk of the town. Regarding this issues, the underlying reasons would be fully dissected and scrutinized on the following grounds.

First and foremost, it is crystal clear that many people use plastic and paper during the COVID-19, which breeds the seriousness of health issues. By dint of the pandemic, rarely do we go out for dinner and family gathering, it is an ineluctable fact that the trend of ordering food takeaway is prevailing and become pervasive, which would definitely produce a pile of plastic wastes and unwittingly increase the pressure of landfills. To further deteriorate the problems, the gas produced by the landfills would exert a negative impact on our health and be harmful to our respiratory system, when it comes to the effect of huge amount of household waste to be released, the first one which would be badly affected is humankind. Isn't it clear that our living quality will be lower with the existence of poor environment? The repercussion the problems brought will probably give you the answer --- the more amount of the household waste produced, the more we suffered.

Another point worthy to note is that the damage of marine ecosystem, which boils down to the wastes produced. Under the circumstances with the rising household waste problems, it is self-explicit, if not obvious, to see that the ocean will be delaminated due to the flow of waste products, including indigestible raw materials and food scraps, while these materials will be eaten by sea animals, such as turtles, fishes or even sharks. One of striking examples will be the declining number of Chinses while dolphins, which has not only aggravated the death of sea animals, but also speed up the extinction of specific species, leading to a plethora of problems. How can you imagine the world without fishes? Assuredly, the skyrocketing amount of household wastes would negatively damage the fisheries' life, sowing the seed of imbalanced marine ecosystem.

To solve the crisis, we should no longer sit on the sideline and pray for the bestm, instead, immediate actions must be taken to remedy the issues. To ameliorate the problems, all citizens should cultivate a good habit and maintain an eco-friendly consciousness inch by inch. Facing such severe problems of wastes produced, it harbours no doubt that we should bring silver lining to the environment by applying 3R principles --- reuse, recycle, reduce --- into our daily lives and actively participated in action-packed programmes and activities related to the environmental protection, such as being a volunteer to help collecting wastes on the beach and taking initiatives to use recyclable materials, which would be beneficial to the earth and pay heed to the news regarding to the environment. In a nutshell, citizens can give a helping hand to protect the environment

shoulder to shoulder.

In perspective of the government, it is duty-bound for the government to educate public through propaganda so as to transfer Hong Kong into a green society. Knowing that the government bear great responsibility in dealing properly with the wastes issues, what the government can do is to strengthen the education of obtaining environmentally-friendly lifestyle, but also promoting 'zero-waste policy' to the enterprise for providing economic incentives for them to leverage organic materials for the customers. Accordingly, the government could give subsidies to the companies and motivate public to do goods for the environment in order to maintain a good city with clear environment.

As the situation brooks no delay, only when we work seamlessly together can the household waste problem be solved. Let's do a willing horse to protect the environment now!

Yours faithfully,
Chris Wong

Good English Writing by S6C Winter Awendela (30)

Part A

For question 1, write about 200 words in the space provided on pages 2 – 3.

1. You are an English teacher at Enlighten College. Recently, school has been suspended due to a public health situation. Many of your students have complained about boredom and a lack of motivation to you. Write a blog post to share words of comfort and encouragement with your students. Give suggestions on what they can do and how they can handle the situation.

Recently, school has been suspended due to the public health situation. Because of that, I have received many complaints from my students about the boredom and lack of motivation. I would like to give some advice regarding the complaints and cheer you up during the situation.

Studying at home can be distracting and boring since it's not the best environment. To cope with the current situation, you can make use of the internet and create your own study environment. Try to study some articles or even videos that is related to the subjects you study. Not only can you learn efficiently, but you can also have fun during the process to kill two birds in one stone.

It is also essential for you to maintain a healthy mental state. Doing some exercises at home can certainly help. You can do some stretching or even some indoor workout that can boost up your energy. If you dislike sports, why not listening to motivating songs? They can help you feel positive and refreshed. It is crucial for you to think positively under these circumstances and be motivated.

I hope that my advice is found to be practical to you all. I acknowledge your hard work of trying to study under this unfavourable condition. Keep it up and I believe that we can make through this hardship together.

Part B

Is Banning Social Media Really the Best?

I am writing this post as I came across a comment complaining that they had to install and update their social media platforms due to peer pressure and they believe that social media shows targeted ads to naïve users even though they claimed to be free. So they strongly called for the banning of social media. I cannot agree anymore that social media has some cons, but you can't ban social media based only on your own experience.

To begin with, I think that they should communicate with their friends upon this matter. It is very common for teenagers trying to keep up with trendy social media platforms. However, you should try to express your discontent of them forcing you to install too much social media platforms. It is important to express your opinion to your friends. If they turn a deaf ear to your concerns, perhaps you should start to find new friends.

For the targeted ads, I do agree that there might be naïve users who would fall into their trap. Nowadays, social media has a new option where you can choose not to see the ad or report about it. Instead of banning social media, we should enforce the education on using social media to raise the awareness of social media users.

Banning social media seems to solve everything, but it will restrict the freedom and enjoyment of internet users. There are still benefits of social media platforms as well.

Social media provides a free platform for people to express themselves. Thousands and millions of internet users would share their thoughts on various of matters. From their favourite cuisine to social issues, all topics can be found on social media. It allows people to interact with others and enlighten people with inspirations. Everyone has a chance to shine on social media.

Interactions is also what people adore about social media. By sharing a post, people can leave a comment below and write a respond about it. Users can even discuss at the comment section and share their views. The interaction provides people a chance to communicate and even an opportunity to discover new friends that share the same interests.

Looking for someone's advice or some references? Welcome to social media. Social media is always packed with different information. You might be able to find news about the society, study tips for exams or even the daily life of your favourite idol. Besides that, you can make a post of yourself about your questions and you would find yourself receiving replies from others.

It can't be denied that social media so have some risks. But with all factors combined, it is reasonable to conclude that social media isn't completely harmful. It can be a platform for people to express themselves, a bridge for social ties and also an informative centre that can assist you in many ways.

Lastly, I hope that the person who wrote the comment that I came across with can notice my post. So that they could see the good side of social media and maybe reconsider about their stand of banning social media.

Good English Writing by S6D Lau Wing Ho (30)

2020-2021 Mock Exam - Writing Q8 (by Wilson)

'Excess' by Wai Yee - A Clear Sign to the World

Recently, when I was scrolling down my Spotify homepage, I came across a new song. My attention was immediately drawn to the single's cover. It is a man calling for help as he is drowning in the sea of gold coins and bills. I clicked play and started to dive right into the song. It turned out that I was overwhelmed!

'Excess' by Wai Yee is her debut single which is widely acclaimed. Musically speaking, the composition and the production of the track is classy but catchy. However, what more impressive is the content.

The song features the theme of materialism and hyper-consumerism. In the beginning of the song, Wai Yee has sort of transformed into a money-crawling monster singing about how she will get all 'their money' by a lot of unethical methods. In the chorus, she sings 'I want the dollar bills' repetitively which grew on me.

The lyrics hit me. I soon then realised the 'money-crawling' monster she is portraying is all the big corporations nowadays. They do a lot of immoral stuff to turn everything into their profits. Take all the lucrative fast-fashion brands as an example, such as Zara, Gap, H&M, you name it. What have they done? They set up sweatshops in under developing countries with flawed legal system so they can exploit the workers. The factories do not have facilities to deal with the sewage so they are discharged to streams and rivers, turning them toxic. All the efforts are to get tons of profits. Yet no one stops them and even realises what is happening.

In the second verse, Wai Yee turns into another ego. She sings, 'I cannot get enough. I need more, more and more. Clearly, she is discussing hyperconsumerism. As she sings, her voice becomes deeper and deeper. The song ends abruptly right after the final line. This verse carries a more reflective message which is right on the spot. Hyper-consumerism is being celebrated by people and media. In real life, we see a lot of salarymen who force themselves to buy branded designer bags and clothes to live up to the social standard and look filthy rich. In media, we see superstars brag about how wealthy they are, what a luxurious life they are living in, on TV in songs and in film. This shapeless force of hyperconsumerism has shaped our society by taking over mainstream media. It causes a craze of people trying to keep up with the fad. People who cannot afford those brands are categorised as 'poor', 'low class' etc. However, most people are unaware of it.

After listening to the song for the first time, I sat for a while and fell into deep thinking. Touche! This is the world we are living in. where monsters walk around red-handed and people being enslaved by materialistic things. The facade of our society is prosperous by behind is decadent and empty in terms of people's souls.

Modern people are having fun on top of the ruin of several thousand-year-old civilizations. Only few people notice the problem and Wai Yee is one of them. Through the song 'Excess', she delivers a powerful and vital message.

To conclude, 'Excess' is not only a musical masterpiece, but also a voice needed to be heard. It is definitely recommended to be played on loops!