

04

ENTERTAINMENT

Which One Do You Prefer, Staying in or Getting out of the House?

1N Low Chun Hin Marshall

In Hong Kong, most of the people like to stay at home to read and play computer or mobile games. Although we are lazy, everyone in the world is developing these lazy and bad hobbies. Why do we have these kinds of hobbies?

I suppose that is not a difficult question to answer. Technology in the 80's was not well developed. People were all diligent and willing to work. Nowadays, thanks to the advancement in technology, not only do most people own their computers at home, but it is also very easy to observe that almost everyone is using their fancy and multi-functional smartphones anytime anywhere, even in a toilet! People just can't go anywhere without a smartphone.

Due to the increasing popularity of computer and mobile games, it is common to see that teenagers including my classmates are addicted to playing all sorts of games. They like to play RPGs (role-playing games) using their computers or smartphones because they think the games are all exciting and they can chat with the others while playing. Although those role-playing games are fun to play, I personally prefer having sports games which are equally exciting and very easy to play. Apart from computer games, I will leave home and enjoy some outdoor activities such as playing football or going camping. What about you?

I think people nowadays are very idle and always stay at home all the time. They simply do not wish to stay outdoors. In my opinion, people should put down their phones, turn off their computers and leave home for some fun like meeting friends or playing sports.

If people can put down their electronic gadgets for a while and play outdoors, life will be much more interesting!

Feedback from 2V Chan Pak Hang:

It is true that playing online games or texting are really popular nowadays. I agree with your suggestions that it's healthier to get out of the house and participate in sports games. However, there are some video game consoles like Wii which emphasize motion-sensitive gaming and require hand, foot and body movements. Therefore, instead of going to the stadium or football court, you can invite your friends to your home and play the motion-sensitive games together!

Avengers Assemble!

5V Nisha Kaur

The team of misfit superheroes is back, and they're going global. The Avengers: Age of Ultron sees the gang reunited to protect humankind from the biggest threat yet: Ultron, a crazy robot hell-bent on wiping out the human race.

While The Avengers was about uniting the team, the sequel is all about pulling them apart.

'The Avengers are a really dysfunctional team, seeing them forced together shows how much they shouldn't work as a team,' says director Joss Whedon.

The filmmakers felt it was important to take a more global approach with this film. 'We've always considered the Avenger to be the world's heroes,' says the film's produced, Kevin Feige. 'Not just America, not just any particular region, but global heroes. We wanted to send the Avengers to the far reaches of the globe.'

Moreover, the filmmakers wanted to film at locations which are not seen as often on the big screen. They filmed in places including Italy, South Africa, South Korea, Bangladesh and England. 'The new locations add a fresh feeling to the film and show that the Avengers really do protect the world,' says executive producer Jeremy Latcham.

The South African government was very friendly and cooperative in giving the success needed. 'It's really nice to find government that want filmmakers to come and show off their city. I think the people of Johannesburg are going to be thrilled to see their city well presented on the big screen,' says Latcham.

And South Africa wasn't the only place to welcome the team. 'The Italian crew built wonderful sets with rocks falling and it was great for me to because it made it much easier to jump right into a sequence when all of the elements were practical versus staring a tennis ball on a silver screen,' says Jeremy Renner, who plays Clint Barton / Hawkeye.

While the new locations add an element of adventure, what makes the film even more exciting is the inclusion of a new villain: Ultron, voiced by James Spader. '[Spade] is so unique and has such amazing voice that is full of humour, darkness and emotion,' says Feige.

Academy Award-winning costume designer Alexandre Byrne returned to design the costumes for the squad. 'I would say my biggest challenge in this one is the number of superheroes,' says Byrne. 'Getting all the looks right, making the costumes work, the number of repeats, how many stunts – it all becomes complicated,' adds Byrne.

Growing from the first film, The Avengers: Age of Ultron promises to be scarier, funnier and more thrilling. So what do the cast think the public's reaction will be? Robert Downey Jr, who plays Tony Stark / Iron Man, thinks people are going to be blown away. 'I just hope people say "Wow" ', he says.

Feedback from 4J Chu Sing Ip:

As a fan of the exhilarating Avengers Series, I did not know much about the background the film until I read this. Thanks to Nisha, I believe every single fan of the Avengers now has a better understanding towards how the film has been produced and will definitely appreciate the movie even more.

The Weird, Wonderful World of Willy Wonka

4J Chu Sing Ip

Since it was first published in 1964, Roald Dahl's *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* has been a must-read for children. But it is a tale that will mesmerise people of all ages, young or old.

The story is about Charlie Bucket, a boy who comes from a poor family. He lives with his parents and four grandparents. He has often been told stories by his grandpa Joe about the mysterious Wonka's Chocolate Factory, which had been shut down and has now resumed production – without any employees.

The owner of the factory, Willy Wonka, secretly puts five golden tickets in the chocolate bars that have been distributed around the world. Lucky ticket-holders will be granted a once-in-a-lifetime visit to the factory and also a lifelong supply of sweets and chocolate. Despite the slim chance, Charlie happens to be one of them, along with four other kids – Augustus, Veruca, Violet, and Mike – who are all selfish with no feelings for others.

When the five winners and their guardians (Charlie chooses to bring Grandpa Joe) visit the factory, the children are secretly tested by Willy Wonka. He wants to find an honest person to take over the factory, as he feels he is getting too old to run things.

Like many other Dahl books, there are several mischievous characters who constantly make trouble for everyone. Charlie, in spite of his poor background, is a selfless and disciplined boy who is mature enough to take care of his family.

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory has been made into a movie twice, but as funny as those films are, the book will make you laugh almost non-stop – and you'll learn a few life lessons, too.

Feedback from 5V Nisha Kaur:

This review by Kelvin is written clearly and simply. Yet, the different scenarios can be easily imagined in our minds which could compel anyone to read the book. As hilarious as the book is, the movie is equally funny. Therefore, I sincerely encourage everyone to visit the weird, wonderful world of Willy Wonka if you haven't done so before.

The Firmest Ship in the Universe

3M Chui Lok Yin Charlotte

What ship will never break and sink?
Apparently the answer is friendship!
Friendship can make all hearts link,
and this ship will never ever sink!

Friends are always everlasting,
they never do things that are irritating.
You are ecstatic when you see them approaching.
Both you and your friends always try to make each other beaming!

Without a buddy,
you will definitely feel bitter.
Just try to find somebody,
and become friends with him or her forever!

Feedback from 3V Chong Ka Yee:

This is an interesting and meaningful poem. It encourages me to cherish the time that I spend with my companions. There are many vocabulary items that are very descriptive and some of the rhyming words make the poem sound more rhythmic. Apart from these, it is inspiring because it reminds me of the importance of having someone to support us and accompany us. I enjoy reading your poem very much!

Meet the Adorable Bear, Paddington

1V Chan Wing Lam

I watched the film Paddington with my sister at the cinema during my holidays. It is a comedy which could be watched by a family and kids at any age. The main character is not a person but a young, brown and fluffy bear who is nameless at the beginning. When Brown's family finds him, they name him "Paddington". Ben Wishaw's voice is used for Paddington and the director of this movie is Paul King. The setting of the story is England, London.

The film is about a young, cute bear that travels to London in search for a home and family. Finding himself lost and alone at Paddington station, he meets a kind family called "the Browns" who offers him a temporary haven. The plot is quite straightforward.

The movie starts to get more exciting when Paddington arrives at the Brown's home. When he enters the bathroom, he doesn't know how to use things such as toothbrush and shower. He uses the toothbrush to clean his ears. How silly! In addition to that, he tastes his earwax and found that it was awful! How gross! Next, he tries to find some water but he finds a bottle of mouthwash instead. Instead of cleaning his mouth, he drinks it! I can't stop laughing when he puts his head into the toilet bowl to use the toilet water to clean his mouth. This blocks the toilet and makes the whole house flood. Paddington is a stupid and naughty bear that creates a lot of trouble for Brown's family.

Although the movie is excellent, I think there are some parts which could have been better. For example, when the bear is put into an animal museum by a wicked woman, he manages to escape easily. It seems that there is no difficulty when he tries to escape. The ending is surprising because the Browns do not throw Paddington out of their house. They accept him as one of their family members and the children become good friends with him. The background music of the movie is fantastic and my favorite song is I Got You sung by James Brown.

Overall, the music is amazing and the special effects are realistic and fabulous. I believe that the movie is superb because the setting and the story of the movie are fantastic. The best part is that it is suitable for children, teenagers and adults. It is definitely a box-office hit and worth watching! I'll definitely recommend it because it's simply perfect! You won't be disappointed! You'd better hurry to watch this movie. Don't miss out the fun!

Feedback from 1V Wong Tsz Yan:

You have written a great review, Whitney. You described one of the best scenes in the movie beautifully with great details and description. You were also able to use different tenses and vocabulary. Would you be kind enough to let Paddington stay at your place if he was found at one of the MTR stations in Hong Kong?

My Favorite Movie

1N Yuen Wai Yu

One of my favorite films is called X-Men. The genre of the movie is a mixture of adventure, action and thriller. It is about a group of extraordinary people who have superpowers. Their task is to go into a battle with the villains. The plot of the story is simple because it is easy to follow and understand the story.

My favorite scene in the movie is when Magneto killed Shaw by putting a coin into his head and it comes out from the back of his head. It is such a wicked scene! I have watched that part over and over! However, the worst part of the film is when Mystique changes herself into a blue figure and it looks as if she was not wearing any clothes. She looked quite revealing because I could see her body shape very clearly.

Overall, I would definitely recommend this film to my classmates and friends because the sound and special effects are amazing especially when you watch it in 3D at the cinema. I cannot wait till the next X-men episode comes out again in the cinema.

Feedback from 3V Chan Yu Ka:

A story with a mixture of action, adventure and thriller must be so interesting! Sometimes the sound and special effects in a movie really make a huge difference to the audience in the cinema. For younger audience, I do think it is important that the plot of a superhero movie is easy to understand as the film is targeted at teens and young adults. What an amazing film!

The Rise of Asian Artists

2V Chan Ying Tsz

Nowadays, Asian singers and movie stars are gaining popularity all over the world and are no longer appealing only to Asian audiences. As a matter of fact, there are a number of reasons underlying it.

First of all, the advancement of information technology enables a wide exposure for media of various sources to other countries. YouTube is a world-wide-networking platform which online users can watch videos from all over the world. Television is another kind of media which provides information and entertainment to the audiences. We can even watch concerts which are broadcast live. This way, people in the western countries can learn more about the popular Asian's stars.

In addition, the rapid economic development of Asian countries, especially Mainland China, provides a huge market for the western countries. Regarding the film-making and music industries, it is a highly profitable business which fosters the domestic economy of the countries. For instance, China's famous movie star, Ziyi Zhang, took part in a Hollywood movie. Because of her popularity, the film attracted Chinese and foreign moviegoers and its ticket sales were among the top five in the world that year. As a result, Hollywood production companies made a lot of profits.

Last but not least, Asian artists give the people in the west a taste of cultural diversity. Westerners are interested in Asian popular cultures, which allow them to explore the traditions and costumes of the East. Take an example, the pop singers in the Korean band Girls Generation, showcase themselves as being young and energetic. In contrast, pop singers in the west are more mature and classic, like Madonna and the deceased Michael Jackson. So these fresh faces from the East appeal to the Western people.

In conclusion, I believe that the Asian stars will continue to expand their popularity in the western countries in the coming years.

Feedback from 2V Chau Cheuk Lam:

I am a big fan of K-pop myself. I love watching the vivid videos and bobbing my head to the catchy tune. I still don't quite understand the lyrics but something about the beats and the dance moves is just magical. I am happy to know that westerners are enjoying it as well.

Friends

3N Lam Lok Fan

Friends are the shining stars which always sparkle,
 Recover your adorable memories,
 Imagine your feelings by echo,
 Even though depressing thoughts always comes across my mind.
 No! No! Stop them by the helping hand from my friends,
 Delighted and impressed,
 Since our friendship never ends.

Feedback from 3S Wan Tsz Yung:

Friends are definitely one of the most valuable things in our life. Lettie reminds us of the importance of having a friend around. Treasure your friends!

Our Marvellous Experience with Bolshoi Ballet

5N Cheung Ming Yan and Pang Lok Yu

This year, there are a variety of dancing shows provided and organized by the Hong Kong Arts Festival. Since we wanted to enjoy a world-class performance and broaden my horizons, we decided to enjoy a ballet show, which was called 'Giselle'.

Before watching the show, we searched for different relevant information about 'Giselle' as it is always good to know about the background before enjoying the show. By doing so, we can understand what the ballerina wants to express and communicate with the audience. We first visited the website of Wikipedia, which gave us the general information of 'Gisele'. Then, we visited the website of the ballet organization, Bolshoi Ballet of Russia, in order to know more about its works, style and reputation. We just could not stop screaming when we got more and more information because this ballet organization is one of the most outstanding ballet companies in the world. We felt so thrilled that Bolshoi Ballet chose to perform in Hong Kong.

After this show, we have learnt several things, like how to conduct a thorough research. I can definitely help us be effective learners in the long run. Furthermore, we were so shocked about the ballerina who could do a 'grand jeté' as it is super challenging. The principal ballerina really performed so well as she could express herself powerfully and convincingly. Her gestures and body language made us feel frightened when she became mad in one of the scenes.

To conclude, it was an amazing entertainment experience. In addition to the lovely atmosphere, we have also learnt how to be more effective learners.

Feedback from Miss Teresa Lam:

I like watching ballet performances too, but I have never watched anything produced by Bolshoi Ballet. After reading your article, I was so jealous. I hope I can enjoy a ballet show of it next Hong Kong Art Festival.

The Phantom of the Opera

1J Law Sum Yi

The Phantom of the Opera is a true story which took place in the Opera House in England. It was rewritten afterwards and became one of the world's most famous operas.

Long ago, there was a Phantom living in an Opera House. He fell in love with the main character – Christine. However, Christine loved somebody else who was her friend. The Phantom taught Christine how to sing the opera and hoped that he could win her love back. When Christine found that the phantom had a horrible appearance, she could not convince herself to love him. Lastly, the Phantom let Christine go. No one saw the Phantom since then.

The Phantom of the Opera is an amazing theatre performance! It is full of thrilling special effects, especially when the huge lamp falls onto the ground. Also, the singer has a perfect voice. Although the ticket was quite expensive, it is worth watching it because the whole thing is nice. However, the plot isn't really straightforward. In fact, it is quite complicated. I will recommend this opera to teenagers but not the kids.

You will be thrilled, so don't miss it! It influenced my life greatly as it provided me with an unforgettable experience.

Feedback from 1J Chong Yuk Yee:

Last year, a number of my friends shared the photos of attending the show The Phantom of the Opera on Facebook. It was one of the most popular events for teens. The story itself was sad, but the music arrangement was fabulous. If you are one of the teens who have been learning the classic piano, you shouldn't miss it.

星期天的志蓮淨苑

2J 陳映彤

外觀莊嚴、一座座仿照唐代建築的廟宇聳立在喧鬧的城市中，顯得別具特色。踏進廟宇內，有種莊嚴不可侵犯的感覺，令人戰戰兢兢。廟宇內有一座園池，令人放鬆、心曠神怡。

星期天的志蓮淨苑人特別少，因為人們都往南蓮園池去了，而這裏的美景，當然留給我一個人獨享！坐在柵欄上仰望着崎嶇不平的盆景石上的松樹。矮小的松樹各有形態，有一棵松樹樹枝一直向左伸展，樹幹特幼小，樹葉稀疏，瘦削得很，像一個老人家彎着身駝背向人乞討，叫人憐憫。還有一棵松樹長得筆直，樹葉茂盛，雖然它比不上紅葉的奪目、櫻花的鮮艷，但它有一種簡單樸素的美隱藏着，只要你慢慢探索、觀看，你就會懂得欣賞它「內心的美」。

忽然，一對蜻蜓飛過來打擾了我欣賞松樹的雅興，使我的眼球跟着它轉動，它們像一對小情侶在玩捉迷藏，他們也像在欣賞着筆直的松樹般。細心一看，這不是一對普通的蜻蜓！它們倆的翅膀是淺粉紅色，而身體是桃紅色，這是屬於少女的色彩吧！過了一會，蜻蜓停留在池水上面，這是我第一次看到蜻蜓點水，當我把相機拿出來的時候，他們已經飛到松樹後了。雖然我捉不住這份美，但這景色會永遠刻畫在我腦海裏面。

陽光折射到池水上，使池水波光粼粼。鯉魚們紛紛游到溫暖的陽光下，每一條鯉魚都大概有兩個手掌般大。細心地觀察，我發現鯉魚跳躍到石邊，在半空中吃掉石邊旁的青苔，此舉令我十分驚訝，在普通公園鯉魚都有人餵，怎麼會學到一身吃青苔的「好功夫」？鯉魚顏色各有不同，有黑的、有金的，忽然，微風吹過，松樹上的樹葉紛紛飄落到池水上，泛起一個個漣漪，魚兒的樣子變得模糊、朦朧，像一塊清紗罩着它，朦朧更可愛！清風吹到我的臉頰，送來一縷縷松樹木的清香，樸素的味令人心曠神怡。看着魚兒自由自在地暢遊，我在想其實魚兒們也挺幸福的，起碼不用承受城市人的工作壓力、每天追趕，那有時間停下來欣賞周邊的景色？

逗留大概一個小時，工作人員走來告訴我，池園要進行清潔，我只好無奈離開。這一個世外桃源、城市中的「學士」，令我的壓力都拋諸腦後，但踏出這園池後，我還得要追回城市人的腳步，而這園池就好像一種心靈的藥物，提供心靈上暫時的舒緩。這個星期天，我獨享着整個志蓮淨苑園池，下個星期天也一樣，慢慢我就成了這裏的常客；慢慢我的心情得以舒緩；慢慢我也不再想追回城市人的腳步了！

嚴聯昆老師評語：

觀察力強，描寫細膩，營造出一種寧靜、和諧的氣氛，把志蓮淨苑的美景一一羅列讀者眼前；結尾對都市生活的慨嘆，引起了讀者的思考，提升了文章的層次。

粥的味道

6S 詹佩盈

街上的大樹都被風吹得左搖右晃，一陣寒風吹起把我的臉吹得赤赤的。令我回想起今天所發生的事。

在嚴寒的假期裏，我不情願地從暖烘烘的被窩走出客廳。再看看掛在牆上的時鐘，原來已是十二時多，我得找點兒吃。我一邊梳洗一邊使勁地想有甚麼吃，猛然靈機一觸，樓下轉角的那檔粥店。我快速地整理，便一個箭步衝下去。還沒踏出大堂，一陣陣的風呼呼吹過。我馬上把衣服拉鏈拉至脖子，雙手牢牢插在外套的袋子，硬着頭皮走出去。

迎面而來是報紙檔，婆婆蜷縮地坐在椅子上，嘴巴微微地震抖着並輕聲地說：「六元一份報紙。」但途人卻沒有理會，我再一直向前走着，風亦吹得十分使勁，途人都低着頭走着，一點聲音也沒，只剩下數輛的汽車在道路上奔馳着，為恬靜的街道增添一份的生氣。走到路的一半，我忽然發覺冬天的景象竟會如此，跟我所想會是截然不同。

我拖着沉重的腳步繼續走，但肚子實在太餓，我只能慢慢地走。眼睛左顧右盼，又有兩個身穿厚厚的衣服的路人在我身邊擦過，小孩緊緊握着母親的手走過。頓時這街道塞滿了人也添過了溫暖的味道。

差不多走到街的盡頭，陣陣的咖啡香味撲進我的鼻裏，隔着玻璃窗我亦清楚看見他們杯裏的煙冒冒升起，輕鬆地坐在舒適的椅子，優閒地閱讀報章。而我仍要繼續跟寒風搏鬥。

倏然，一陣香噴噴熬粥的香味在附近充斥着，像是為我的腳步加快速度，一想到那碗熱烘烘軟綿綿的粥，我便垂涎三尺。我心充滿萬分的期待，那一刻快要來臨。一拐彎，看着眼前的一切，所有事情都變得很陌生，我只愣着，並仔細打量四周，確是這兒。

眼前的粥店換了新面孔，不再是以前的那一間。我發現周遭的轉變不大，只有這裏改變了。店內點着明亮的燈，一排排整理好的桌子和椅子，使我有點不習慣。這裏的一切擺設都妥當。但缺乏的是老闆平常在粥店的叫喊聲，一句句溫馨的聲音，那份溫暖的情及那碗粥的味道。

隨着時間的過去，縱使有些事情是不會改變，但有些事情是會從我們的身旁無聲無色地消失掉。有時候，我們或許可以停下腳步，細心留意周圍的事物，也許會有意想不到的事情。也會發覺自己的渺小。冬去春來，一片片綠油油的草地及五色繽紛的花朵向我招手。是時候，停下來，看一看世界的色彩。

嚴聯昆老師評語：

描寫細膩，善用對比。文章道出了新與舊之間的矛盾與衝突，立意不俗；然有關粥的「味道」那一部分可進一步加強，使主題更見凸出。

茶的味道

6S 黃業霽

常人喝茶，常說茶有苦味。高雅之士喝茶，會說茶苦中帶甘。我喝茶，則說茶的甘是苦味散盡才知曉的。

每一個人的人生都如一杯茶。不過，我必須先指出，茶也有百味，有的濃郁，有的清淡。以茶喻人生，每人也有其特別之處。

中國茶品恆如沙數，普洱、香片、龍井、鐵觀音，各有不同。我相信，當中最難完全體味的茶是香片。就如其名字，剛泡好的香片茶會散發出陣陣茶香，令人垂涎三尺。甫喝下去，淡淡的茶味逐漸在口中散播開來，刻下便達至生津解渴的效果。然而，入口數秒後，茶葉中原始的苦味變得濃厚，使人難以下嚥。不過，當我們再次靜下來細味，就會發現茶的香味從沒散去，變苦的原因只是我們過分放大其苦味而已。

以香片比喻我們的人生應是最為貼切的。我們以一個新生命的姿態誕生時，茶剛入口，生命得到滋潤，令我們精神飽滿，充滿幹勁地迎接接踵而來的新挑戰。我們到達學生時期，正是茶的苦味散播之時。我們在學校遇上各種挑戰，如何把老師所授吸收，如何趕在期限前遞交功課，如何融入班別這個小社區，都令我們叫苦連天。進入社會，賺取生活費、繼續學業、儲錢置業，人生中的大問題不斷壓在一雙瘦弱的手上，更令我們苦不堪言，渴望藉著把口中變苦的茶吐出以擺脫苦況。直到我們成功，才察覺口中的苦味其實毫不起眼。我們的心中想法不斷更變，但茶的味道從不改變——苦到盡頭便是甘。

劉金濱的《文人與茶》中提及這一句：「喝茶雅在品，在品茶的時候，何嘗不是在品味人生？」每個人的人生都像一種茶，分別只在於茶的苦味會持續多久，以及嚐它的人以什麼心態品嚐。散文家周作人早已超凡脫俗，因為他清楚，愈是苦澀的愈耐人咀嚼品味。世上有誰能達至這種境界？我並不能回答你，抱歉，我嚐茶仍只能嚐出其苦澀之味。或許有一天，你喝一口別人眼中平平無奇的茶，會察覺其甘味，使人生中的苦味變淡，令你懂得如何「苦中作樂」。

嚴聯昆老師評語：

以茶喻人生，道出「苦盡甘來」的道理，比喻恰當。文中所引劉金濱、周作人之例，信手拈來，見平日涉獵之廣。若能進一步從「茶道」出發，體味人生，提出新見，將更可喜。

牛腩麵的味道

6V 姚婉淋

「快走吧！外婆！」我拉著外婆那粗糙的小手，左蹦右跳，興高采烈地沿著那條已經數年沒去過的街口，熟悉又帶點陌生。那場境就如當時外婆第一次帶我嚐牛腩麵的時候……
忽然，我停下了腳步。

除了眼前那道冰冷無情的鐵閘之外，還剩下一個封塵的膠筒……

自從外婆前年不幸中風，行動不便，我們便沒有再到觀塘——裕民坊，到黃伯伯那裏吃牛腩麵了。儘管在香港這個城市裏，試過很多不同地方所烹調的牛腩麵，但終究找不到那種味道，亦可以說，沒有一間餐廳能及得上黃伯伯所烹調出來的牛腩麵。

想起當日外婆拖著我，經過這條街口，然後在這裡找個位子坐下。不久，有位伯伯穿著一身油漬斑斑的米白色背心，端來了一碗熱騰騰的麵，放在桌子上，比我的臉還大！不一會兒，又端來了一個小碗，「小孩子！吃多點才能長高啊！你要知道黃伯伯這裡的麵是最好吃的！」他拍拍我的頭說。當時還小的我，對於那陌生人突如其來的反應感到十分詫異。
然後，外婆從那比我臉還大的碗，夾起了麵條並放進旁邊的小碗。我笨拙地拿起雙筷子，將小嘴貼近碗邊，並將麵條慢慢地推進我的口裏……

「咳咳……」麵條把我的喉嚨卡住，不容易把它咬斷。身後的伯伯便隨即從廚房裏拿出一把剪刀，「嚓嚓」幾聲便瞬間將我碗內長長的麵條變短，我更容易地試嚼每一條麵條了，我也漸漸對華伯伯放下了疑心。

自此以後，平常自己一有空，便會叫外婆到觀塘找黃伯伯吃麵。

「咦！小朋友，今天又想吃些什麼呢？」當時黃伯伯正蹲在大門旁的膠筒前洗牛腩，他看到我與外婆，便立即站起來說。

「今天我要兩碗牛腩麵！」我調皮地伸出兩隻指頭。
「嘩！今天你竟然要自己食一碗！多厲害！」然後他把手頭上的工作收拾好，便轉身走回廚房去。

還記得當時店裏沒什麼人，所以我能在那裏放縱，走來走去，玩累了，就坐在最近廚窗的一枱，抬著腮注視著黃伯伯一舉一動，並望著期待已久的牛腩麵。

廚窗飄來了一股香蔥味道，配以陣陣的牛肉芳香，令人垂涎欲滴。不消幾分鐘，兩碗即場新鮮炮製的牛腩麵便端在我面前。麵條上的牛腩佈滿半個碗子，然後在表面撒上一些蔥粒作為點綴。有時候，還會送我一碟我最喜歡吃的炸魚皮，香脆可口。
想也想不到，那是我最後一次看到黃伯伯了……

「咦，黃伯伯不在了？」「嗯。」我確實不想接受這眼前一切的影像，但無奈地我要承受這裡已是事實。
政府推行城市化，把一些富有傳統文化的建築物無情地拆走。除了牛腩麵在味蕾上享受，背後還浸透了一份淡淡的人情味。

如今眼前一道冰冷的鐵閘之外，只剩下一個封塵的膠筒……

「黃伯伯，可以來兩碗牛腩麵嗎？……」

嚴聯昆老師評語：

借牛腩麵店的人事轉遷，道出了舊區重建所帶來的無奈與不捨，立意不俗，情感亦算真摯；然「牛腩麵」本身的作用可作進一步提升，使之更貼合「牛腩麵的味道」此一主題。



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