Dear Peter,

Hello! How are you? It has been a long period of time since I wrote to you last time. Recently, I have become interested in the TV channels in Hong Kong. In this letter, I will express my thoughts about the popularity of these TV shows.

First of all, I will not object to others like my friends and relatives to watch these TV shows. In fact, my classmates and I often chat about the shows and the questions involved. However, the introduction of these TV shows during the economic downturn of Hong Kong really exerts some impacts on society.

For the positive impact, Hong Kong people have more motivation to read books in order to participate in these TV shows and get more money. It is because the more preparation they have in advance, the easier it is for them to win and obtain some money in the harsh time of high unemployment. Also, the participants and audience will realize that they lack common sense and different kinds of knowledge. They will be willing to read more books to enrich their knowledge. Consequently, the intellectual standard of Hong Kong people will be improved.

Moreover, because of the economic downturn, it is not easy to earn money. With extra cash prizes provided by these shows, Hong Kong people will feel less discontent with the frustrating daily lives because they at least have some hope. I strongly agree that these TV shows can provide partial satisfaction for Hong Kong people.

Besides, the introduction of these TV shows also diversifies the programmes. The audience has more chances to choose their favourite programmes. The relationship among the audience, the TV channels and even the hosts of these TV shows become more interactive. As a result, the role of audience will no longer be passive. They can answer questions and check their own understanding. Some games allow them to set questions, too.

However, there are also some negative impacts. Firstly, these TV shows convey a misleading message to Hong Kong people that knowledge is closely related to money. People acquire more knowledge only for money. It will adversely affect our learning attitude as we believe that it is meaningless to us to enrich our knowledge without these TV shows.

Moreover, people joining these TV shows tend to memorize some fragmented facts, such as names or dates of some important people or events only. They cannot fully explain or analyze an issue. Eventually, our knowledge will not be improved.

In my opinion, these TV shows should be broadcasted on the Internet. However, the TV channels should produce more informative and healthier programmes at the same time in order to educate the public. These programmes can motivate Hong Kong people to acquire more knowledge.

Do you agree with me? I am looking forward to hearing from you soon.

Yours faithfully,
Chris Yeung

Cheung Ka Shing S.5E

Thanks to the $10,000 grant from the Parents and Teachers’ Association, we can spend the money freely. Since it is not a big amount, we have to spend it wisely rather than wasting on useless stuff at school. How would we spend it properly? Can we replace all the ‘elderly’ in the computer room? It is impossible that a computer costs approximately $5,000! I suggest that we replace all the old, scratched, out-dated books in the library. The possibility of benefit is undoubtedly much higher.

Why should we spend the money on buying books? As I mention above, some books have lost their usage. We don’t read them anymore. For example, will you read a story book with some missing pages? Will you read a computer book about the DOS operating system, needed in the early 90s, instead of the one about the most updated Windows XP?

Moreover, it is crystal clear that there are too few books in the library. There are less than 20 English story books, only a few references for each subject, no more than 1000 books in total. We need to buy more! Otherwise, how can we attract students to read? It is possible to buy 200 books around $50 for each, so the total number of books will be increased by 10%! We can buy more English story books, Chinese fictions and reference books, and subscribe to a few kinds of magazines. Thus, the library will be more abundant.

Reading is absolutely important to secondary school students. We should read more in order to improve our language. In addition, we have to absorb more knowledge in the year of new technology. We should have reference in the books related to the subjects we are studying. However, resources were insufficient in the past. In contrast, we are able to have more choices in the library now.

I hope the principal, teachers and students will agree with me. Let us benefit. Let us be well-educated from teachers and books. Let us contribute to society in the future. Let us be proud of the library in our school. In order to achieve our wishes, we can spend the money granted by the Parents and Teachers’ Association to buy books.

Wong Kam Yin S.5E

I respond to a newspaper article about 9-year free education in the Student Post yesterday.

In the article, the writer suggests that the 9-year free education be cancelled. However, I extremely disagree with him. The policy is definitely essential, reasonable and acceptable.

Does the policy waste money and time for slow learners and lazy students? I don’t think so. Education is an effective channel to obtain knowledge. Therefore, everyone should be educated, especially students with lower ability. Teachers should also cooperate and considerate. Education is not only offered to good students!

In Hong Kong, a lot of parents cannot afford the school fee of their children because they need to buy many books and items of stationery. If the policy is cancelled, who will pay for students? If they don’t study, what can they do? They are too young to work. How to support their life? Will they commit crime? What a serious consequence we may receive.

It is said that keen competition can improve education. Everyone can receive it since we all have the right to learn. If you want to equip yourselves with knowledge, the 9-year free education can help you a lot. In the long run, all students can benefit from it. Any unfairness and cheating will not happen.

Furthermore, education enhances communication skills and thinking. Students can learn to balance their emotions and cultivate a good manner.

To sum up, I hope that everyone can draw other readers’ attention. If the 9-year education is cancelled, many people may never know the advantages of education.

Peter Lam Tai Po

2002 No.38

Let’s Have More Choices in the Library

Quiz shows

Au Wing Yin S.7A

Computer Lab

Beny Lau Sze Ting S.5E

9-Year Free Education

Wong Kam Yin S.5E

Free


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