

4 · 23 World Book Day 創作比賽 Creative Competition in 2025





Agsaoay Matthew Dashiell

St. Joseph's Anglo-Chinese School **Topic My Travel Buddy (Discover Australia)**



As I have been planning to visit the country down under (Australia), I've recently borrowed a book from the public library to assist with the planning.

This book, (Discover Australia) is a travel guide for the aforementioned Australia. And of course it includes all of Australia's biggest cities, eg: Sydney and Melbourne. Alongside with all the attractions in said cities. For my trip, I will go to Sydney itself. This book introduced me to different places in Sydney that I've never heard of before, like the Blue Mountains, The Gap etc. The book helped me choose between all the different places to visit in Sydney and its surrounding areas and it also helped me to plan the best and most convenient route (as a map is included within the book), the stunning pictures of the attractions in Sydney included here of the Blue Mountains in particular is the catalyst for my future visit there.

To my surprise at least the book also includes some reviews on some of the attractions and hotels, some of which is included in the book as part of the sleeping category, which also brings me to another great thing about this book. The different types of categories which are mainly defined by their symbols in the book, for example pieces of cutlery, are shown to represent the Eating category. This is especially helpful as if I'm looking for anything to eat around Sydney, I can just skim through the section to look for anything that fits my pallet and with the help of the written reviews that i mentioned earlier, it is really convenient and efficient.

This book also gives an insight on how Australian culture is and as a result it also has to mention the history of the Aussies and their country in it as well. I found this segment of the book to be very interesting and extremely informative as it also told me what not to do or what is considered bad manners in Australia, I didn't know that being overdressed was considered bad manners in Australia.

This next part is what i would consider bar the insight on attractions and the final part is the segment that includes common slangs Aussies use, this was a crucial part as Aussies use a large amount of slangs in their daily life and if I would to visit Australia, I'd have to use or at least learn some of these slangs, the most common ones are 'Gnarly' (Awesome) and 'Going off' (Busy). With this inclusion, it will probably be much easier but there I'm still concerned about the heavy accents Australians possess that was a bit hard to understand.

The final part is the inclusion of the basic knowledge of travelling to Australia. Now this part is a true lifesaver for the planning of the trip, this so-called beginners guide to Australia included tons of tips for travellers about Australia. It helps me and my family to determine when the best time to travel to Australia is, in which I found out that it's between March to May which was extremely convenient as it's also when the easter holiday occurs. It and the segment above reminded us that Australian English is almost an entire different language to the English we speak as seen with the slangs above. And finally the most important thing I learnt before going there was to keep a sense of awareness and perspective as there are tons and tons of different insects, bugs and dangerous animals in Australia.

So overall this book has been a great help so far into the planning stages and I would absolutely borrow a similar book to use when I'm there as it will act as a great substitute for my phone as the wi-fi there probably won't be as good as Hong Kong's. And for others that are planning for an Australian trip I'd highly recommend it as it will help a lot! I'm look forward to going on a trip with this 'Travel Buddy'.

Book Read

Book Title: Lonely Planet Discover Australia : Lonely Planet Author

Publisher : Footscray: Lonely Planet, 2010.

Comments

- · An insightful review with personal reflections.
- The ideas were clearly stated and supported.

Fok Kei Lung Aresbrett

SPHRC Kung Yik She Secondary School **Topic** My Travel Buddy

Whenever I go travelling, the journey to the destination is boring and grueling. To help me keep my boredom away, I always go with a travel buddy, which is my book.

I am the type of person who enjoys reading books, especially novels, as the book tells me a story of another world where life is different from mine, allowing me to escape reality.

My favourite travel buddy is definitely Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring, the first book of the Lord of the Rings trilogy. It is borrowed from a public library near my home. It's a classic fantasy novel written by J. R. R. Tolkien. Surely, many of you have heard of or even read this book. I have read it countless times during my trips that I can even memorize each chapter. Despite the book using old-fashioned English such as 'shan't' or 'queer', it never bothers me as the book is very spell-binding. A shiver often runs down my spine when reading tense moments even when I have read it so many times.

Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring starts off with Frodo and Sam being sent on a mission to destroy a ring stolen by Bilbo many years ago. That ring happens to be the One Ring, which allows the user to be invisible upon wearing it but holds the power of the Dark Lord Sauron. They embark on a journey to Mount Doom to destroy the ring for good but dangers lie ahead of the journey. Sauron sends Black Riders to claim the ring but fails thanks to allied wizard, Gandalf the Grey. In the journey, they are joined by allies Aragorn, Boromir, Legolas and Glimli. After a failed attempt to cross the Misty Mountains, they take the risk and travel through the Mines of Moria. They are ambushed by orcs and a balrog. Gandalf takes on the balrog and the group flees from the treacherous mines. They travel to the Elvish forest for supplies and travel down the River Anduin. At Amon Hen, Boromir attempts to take the ring but Frodo flees from the group. He decides to travel to Mordor alone but Sam intercepts him.

When I am reading the book, I would always imagine myself in Middle-earth, right beside Frodo like his invisible companion. I would be together with the group, walking past the bushes and trees in the Elvish Forest, traversing the mines and riding a boat down the River Anduin. I could feel the scorching flames from the balrog and the presence of the Black Riders haunting me. The people supposedly around me would become hobbits, dwarves, elves and orcs. The busy streets outside would transform into a peaceful village and my accommodation would become an underground hut in the Shire. Once I unfold the contents of the book, the world around me would seemingly turn into Middle-earth, as if the book was a portal to another world.

The beginning of a great adventure always starts with a great beginning in my opinion. I often enjoy the start of a great adventure more than the process and the ending. The chapters that hold the contents of the group facing life or death situations are the best parts of the story. When Frodo lays his eyes upon a lot of corpses of those who step foot into the Mines of Moria, he knows that he is in grave danger and has a small chance of leaving the mines alive. It always gives me shivers when the group is outnumbered by orcs. I could feel my body shaking with trepidation when I saw the orcs come closer, as if my life flashed before my eyes.

To fight boredom, let yourself step into another world where it is completely different from the world you know, allowing yourself to explore places you have never been to, meet new people and go on an expedition, just like how I see myself in Middle-earth travelling with Frodo and Sam to destroy the One Ring for good. A simple travel buddy can give you wild imaginations.

Book Read

Book Title: The Lord of the Rings

: J.R.R. Tolkien Author Publisher : London: George Allen & Unwin, 1966.

Comments

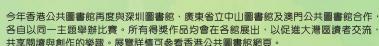
- The expression is clear, accurate, appropriate for purpose.
- Excitement and emotional connection to the story is vividly expressed.

作品以原作展示並以獲獎者姓名排序。 Works are displayed in original form and arranged in the order of the winner's name. 支持機構 Supporting Organisations

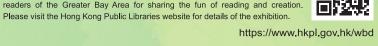
教育局 Education Bureau

香港學校圖書館主任協會 Hong Kong Teacher-Librarians' Association 香港創意閱讀教育協會 Association of Innovative Reading 香港貿易發展局 Hong Kong Trade Development Council





This year, the Hong Kong Public Libraries continues to collaborate with the Shenzhen Library, the Sun Yat-sen Library of Guangdong Province and the Macao Public Library in organising competitions under the same theme separately. All winning entries will be displayed in these libraries to foster exchanges among readers of the Greater Bay Area for sharing the fun of reading and creation.





4·23 World Book Day 含11年比赛 Creative Competition in 2025







The ship was swaying in the sea; the long distance train was buzzing; the cold plane has only a small cabin. Ah, how do you pass the time on the boring journey?

On my flight from Hong Kong to Beijing, I was pleased to find a very moving book called Little Women. This book has accompanied me throughout my journey and inspired me deeply.

It tells the story of four March sisters with different personalities, who supported each other and bravely pursued their dreams in the difficult life during the American Civil War.

Meg is the gentlest and kindest of the four sisters. She longs for a happy family. Beth is a gentle and kind girl who is good at music. She likes to take care of her family at home and bring them warmth and happiness. Amy is a lively girl who loves beauty. She longs for a better life and wants to be an artist. What impresses me most is Jo, an independent girl who loves writing. She wants to be a writer and pursues her dream, just like me.

However, their path to pursuing their dreams has not been smooth sailing. Their father is a priest who went to the front line to support the war, leaving them and their mother to depend on each other. Their family is poor and life is difficult. Meg marries a gentle and kind neighbor, only to find that married life is not as wonderful as she had imagined. In order to pursue his dream, Jo works hard to write, but she repeatedly encounters obstacles. Unfortunately, Beth gets sick and eventually passes away. Amy goes to Europe to study art and experiences many hardships in a foreign country. The four sisters have experienced many setbacks and hardships in their respective life paths.

Put down the book and think: whose life path can always be full of roses? Children in poor mountainous areas have no chance to go to school. It's hard for young people to get jobs. Middle-aged people may be worried about losing their jobs. Some elderly residents can't afford the high medical bills. Even I, too, have failed in exams. Perhaps thorns are the norm on the journey of life.

So are the lives of the four sisters a tragedy? Absolutely not. Despite the many hardships they experienced, the sisters always support, encourage each other and love each other. Their strength and courage allow them to stick to their dreams in the face of adversity, and ultimately achieved happiness and success.

Compared to them, I am so lucky. I live in Hong Kong, which is an international metropolis. There is no war here, only prosperous streets and warm citizens. I have parents who love me, as well as kind teachers and friendly classmates. Not only do I have the opportunity to go to school, but I am also able to choose my favorite extracurricular activities, such as writing. I can even travel to Beijing, and read such moving books while traveling. How happy it is!

Moreover, I think I can donate some books to children in disadvantageous situation, hoping that they will love reading as much as I do. I can also go to the elderly's home to read to them, giving them some company. If there is a chance, young people may go further education and learn different skills from books. The upset middle-aged may get peace and comfort by reading as well. Hopefully, everyone can find the courage to overcome difficulties like the four sisters.

After reading "Little Women", I am deeply impressed by their strength and bravery. This book tells me that no matter what difficulties I encounter, I must be brave enough to pursue my dreams and cherish the people around me. I believe that as long as we have hope and courage, we can overcome any challenge on the journey of our life and create a better future of our own.

Book Read

Book Title: Little Women

Author : Louisa May Alcott Publisher : San Diego: Canterbury Classics, 2012.

Comments

- The ideas were clearly stated and supported.
- The expression was accurate and appropriate for purpose.



Most people think that traveling is always an enjoyable experience, but I don't feel the same way. Sometimes, a journey full of unknowns and challenges can make me stronger. I came to Hong Kong to challenge myself by living and studying here. It's a long journey, but one that helps me improve my abilities.

A year ago, when I first stepped into Hong Kong, everything felt like a new world. The streets were busy, the food smelled different, and the language was completely foreign. I was a little scared. I didn't know where to start or how to fit in. It was like standing at the edge of an adventure, unsure how to take that first step. Then, one day, I found a book—The Alchemist by Paulo Coelho. Little did I know this book would become my companion, guiding me through my own journey.

The story is about Santiago, a young shepherd, who goes on a journey to find treasure. Along the way, he meets people who teach him important lessons about life and following his "Personal Legend"—his true purpose in life. There's the wise king, the thoughtful crystal merchant, and the mysterious alchemist. Each of them shares a piece of wisdom, and I found myself learning from them, too.

One important lesson came from Santiago's encounter with the king. The king tells him, "The greatest things in the world are often the simplest." At first, I didn't really get it. When I arrived in HK, I thought I had to do everything perfectly—learn the language, understand the culture, and be amazing at everything. But, like Santiago, I learned that the best way to succeed is by focusing on the basics. Instead of trying to understand everything all at once, I started small steps - learning the language, making friends, and trying to fit in with the local rhythm. Once I simplified my goals, things began to be clearer. I felt less overwhelmed. But the journey didn't always go smoothly. I remember my first time ordering food in Cantonese. I had memorized a few phrases, but when the waiter asked, "你要咩飲品?" (What kind of drinks do you like?), my heart raced. I nodded, but I had no idea what he was saying. His confused look made me want to crawl into a hole. However, as I reflected on Santiago's meeting with the crystal merchant, I understood that these awkward moments were part of my journey. The merchant dreams of success, but the fear of change paralyzes him. His fear of failure keeps him from growing, just as I feared making mistakes. In the story, Santiago teaches him that mistakes are necessary for one to move forward. Just like the merchant, I had to embrace the discomfort. Therefore, I practiced more, made more mistakes, and I was ordering with much more confidence.

Then, there is the moment Santiago meets the alchemist. He taught Santiago that true transformation doesn't happen just by changing what we see on the outside. It happens when we change how we think and feel. I often felt lost in HK. But I began to change. I learned that growth comes from stepping outside my comfort zone. I stopped fearing the unknown and started embracing it. Each challenge became a chance to grow and learn something new about myself.

I remember my first presentation in English. I was terrified—not just because I had to speak in front of my classmates, but because I doubted my language skills. The fear almost made me back out. But I wanted to be as brave as Santiago, so I pushed through. I practiced every day and asked for feedback. When the presentation was over, it wasn't just about the grade. It was the realization that transformation happens when we push past our limits.

Santiago discovers that real treasure lies not in a distant goal but in the journey itself. Before traveling with Santiago, my journey in Hong Kong was all about reaching a top-ranked college. However, I gradually noticed that it's about the moments along the way—the struggles and the lessons learned. Like Santiago, I understand that the treasure isn't waiting at the end of the road. It's in the journey itself. And as I continue my path here, every experience—whether good or bad—brings me closer to the treasure I've been seeking: personal growth.

The Alchemist has been more than just a book for me. It has been a life guide, reminding me that a true journey is about growth. Every day here in Hong Kong brings a new lesson, and I am more excited than ever to keep discovering what lies ahead, and moving closer to the treasure that's already within me.

Author : Paulo Coelho Publisher: London: Harper, 2006.

Book Read

Book Title: The Alchemist

Comments

- Interesting approach to connect personal experiences with major themes in the book.
- Nice organisation of ideas and use of imagery.

香港悅讀周 Works are displayed in original form and arranged in the order of the winner's name. **HONG KONG READING WEEK**

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作品以原作展示並以獲獎者姓名排序。

香港貿易發展局 Hong Kong Trade Development Council





4・23 World Book Day 創作に寮 Creative Competition in 2025





初中組 中(S1)▶中三(S3)
Junior Secondary





The dinosaur's front paws were less than a meter in front of me, and his metacarpals were as big as my face, as if they were going to come down and grab me. Leafing through photo albums, I recall the sun-dappled afternoon strolling through the National Museum of Australia, shocked by the huge dinosaur fossils before my eyes. It was a behemoth more than three meters high, and numerous individuals with long, thick keels suspended in thin lines formed a stunning picture from ancient times. I don't know much about dinosaurs, mostly from a novel I read, *The Magic Tree House*. The memories of the journey were like a firework that could be traced back countless times, in my mind, blooming, and the photo also like a life force to come to life. I feel like I am traveling through time, when reading *In the Magic Tree House, Dinosaurs before Dark Jack and Annie's situation*.

This fantasy journey woven by the famous children's literature writer with delicate strokes is not only a pile of words, but also a voyage of the soul, and is my faithful partner in countless trips. In the story, twelve-year-old Annie and her cousin Jack accidentally travel to the age of dinosaurs. They stand in the giant ferns, surrounded by strange creatures of ancient times, this scene coincides with the fossils in front of me, as if I were in a book, in the primitive forest, peaking at the shadow of the era's overlords, exploring to find the truth of their disappearance. The book details how they skillfully used their knowledge and wisdom to avoid danger, communicate with prehistoric creatures, and eventually find their way back home. In the trip to the Australian Museum, I seemed to follow their footsteps, looking at the huge fossils in front of me and looking forward to exploring in that distant era. I had combined the knowledge obtained from the book with what I had seen and heard from the museum. Whilst also experiencing the spiritual shock and growth brought by reading and traveling.

The reason why this book can become a companion in my travel is not only its wonderful plot and rich imagination and the knowledge it brings me, but also the profound moral it conveys. In these fast-paced times, there are few opportunities for us to truly "stop", and The Magic Tree House, with its unique charm, encourages us to explore the world with a childlike curiosity. Jack and Annie lead us to explore the world from the perspective of virginity, which reminds me that when I travel, I am full of curiosity and longing for the world just like them. When we see animals that look different, we like to explore the reasons why they are different. I always like to explore the origin of customs in different places when I find them; I always like to ask the root of problems when I meet them. As the old saying goes, "Read ten thousand books and travel ten thousand miles - grow in reading, travel in imagination". Just as every turn of the page is a journey into the unknown, every immersion in the story is a spiritual excursion; each page is like a conversation with an ancient sage; every detail is like the scenery in the travel, some people are scary, some are warm like spring. My thoughts are stimulated and my soul is nourished. The tree house, like a spiritual station, no matter how noisy the outside wind and rain, it is quietly waiting for me to find peace and strength through reading. "Magical Tree House" A novel which took me through one wonderful trip to another, feeling the local customs of different regions and the wonderful and colorful world.

In travel, I explore; in reading I grow. If you cannot read ten thousand books, walk ten thousand miles; if you cannot travel ten thousand miles, read ten thousand books. I sincerely recommend this book to every friend who loves traveling and reading. I believe that you can also find a surprise and something that belongs to you in the story. May we all read in the journey and travel in the reading.

Book Read

Book Title : Dinosaurs before dark
Author : Mary Pope Osborne

Author : Mary Pope Osborne
Publisher : New York: Random House, 2015.

Comments

- Vocabulary wide and precise. It had fluent expression,
 with logical sequencing. Ideas were insighful, thought-provoking.
- Good use of vivid language and imagery to engage the reader; shared insights on the lessons learnt from the book; thoughtful organisation of ideas

Lugue Caitlin Danielle Ruiz

St. Margaret's Co-educational English Secondary & Primary School

Topic My Trip to WWII on the MTR

Long commutes to school give me the perfect opportunity to read. One day, as I was on the MTR travelling to school, I didn't have much to do, so I retrieved a book from my backpack and began to read. It was a whirlwind of emotions, action, and suspense. I hadn't realised it at the time, but this book kept me company while I went on my daily journeys. Since then, I fish out my book each morning to see where it would take me.

This is a book I stumbled upon during a visit to the public library in Tai Kok Tsui, *The Stolen Baby* by Diney Costeloe. After reading the synopsis, I thought it may be an interesting read due to the way the synopsis was written—it gets you hooked and then leaves you to finish the rest of the story.

Set in 1941 in Plymouth, England during World War II, the story starts with a baby boy left behind in the ruins, which was once his home. Being consigned to oblivion, his family flocked to the nearest air-raid shelter for safety.

In another part of the town, Colin Peterson, an air-raid warden, and his wife, Maggie, are new to Plymouth. They have just lost their child and in war, a bereaved mother seems like the least of people's concerns. One night, Colin brings home a baby in his arms. Maggie, who has been consumed by grief since the death of her son, slowly gets back her spark. To her, that is the return of her long-lost son, Roger Peterson.

An Immersive Reading Experience

If I could use one word to describe the book, it would be "immersive". One thing that I noted was the author's talent when it comes to emotions. Emotions play a great role in any story, emphasising points and statements that would hit close to home. How Costeloe illustrates the characters' complex feelings of agony, sorrow, and anger has greatly enhanced my reading experience. It was almost as if I was Maggie, grieving the loss of her baby, or as if I was the mother, full of agony and guilt for losing my baby. It also made me think - what if I was that baby whose parents had left behind? I would have been so scared and confused and bewildered! Her knack for portraying emotions, which deserves more publicity, has allowed me to empathise with the fictional characters. As well as those who experienced this story in real life.

Death and Destruction

Consider this as historical fiction, another prominent theme in the book is death and destruction. Inevitably, life comes with death; but the losses depicted in the book are incredibly painful because they were all driven by the war. It shows how lucky we are to be living in a more peaceful world nowadays while also displaying the amount of pain and grief from those who have to live through the war. War leaves trauma to the survivors and increases their emotional suffering because of the threats of losing their loved ones, communities, and ordinary lives. In war, there are no true winners, but only pain and loss. With all the ongoing conflicts in the world, I hope we can avoid World War III, so no one has to go through what parents and their children had to go through in the past.

Conclusion

Arthur Neville Chamberlain, a British politician who served as prime minister of the United Kingdom before World War II erupted, once said; "In war, whichever side may call itself the victor, there are no winners, but all are losers". People like Colin Peterson, who served his country well, were killed in action. Maggie Peterson's unstable mental state due to her miscarriage was aggravated by the violence of war. Her imprisonment for abducting the lost baby boy might have never happened in a time of peace. Many individuals like them ended up with a fate that they did not truly deserve.

However, hope is a consolation — the bright light at the end of a dark and gloomy tunnel. The lost baby boy was reunited with his mother at the end of the book. This, to me, symbolizes that the world will always get back on its feet regardless of any pain and suffering that comes its way. With every page turned, with every word read, the glory of the narrative unfolded, I'm glad I read this book, and I'm grateful for the company that it gave me as a travel buddy.

Book Read

Book Title : The Stolen Baby

Author : Diney Costeloe
Publisher : London: Head of Zeus, 2022.

Comments

- Grammar, spelling and punctuation were conventionally appropriate.
 Properly spaced. Sequencing of details were effective and logical.
- Thoughtful discussion of major themes in the book; clear and coherent organisation of ideas.

作品以原作展示並以獲獎者姓名排序。
Works are displayed in original form and arranged in the order of the winner's name.

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今年香港公共圖書館再度與深圳圖書館、廣東省立中山圖書館及澳門公共圖書館合作名自以同一主題舉辦比賽。所有得獎作品均會在名館展出,以促進大灣區讀者交流共享閱讀與創作的樂趣。展覽詳情可參看香港公共圖書館網頁。

This year the Hong Kong Public Libraries continues to collaborate with the

共享閱讀與創作的樂趣。展覽詳情可参看香港公共圖書館網頁。
This year, the Hong Kong Public Libraries continues to collaborate with the Shenzhen Library, the Sun Yat-sen Library of Guangdong Province and the Macao Public Library in organising competitions under the same theme separately. All winning entries will be displayed in these libraries to foster exchanges among readers of the Greater Bay Area for sharing the fun of reading and creation. Please visit the Hong Kong Public Libraries website for details of the exhibition.



4·23 World Book Day 创作比赛 Creative Competition in 2025





初中組 中(S1)▶中三(S3)
Junior Secondary

Kaen Lu

Pui Kiu Middle School

Topic My Travel Buddy — The Graveyard Book

Nowadays, when teenagers are asked to suggest "a travel buddy" for themselves, they often think of nothing except a multifunctional phone. However, for me, the first thing that comes to my mind is a novel called the Graveyard Book from HarperCollins Publishers, written by Neil Gaiman in 2008.

I was recommended to read this book by my friends at my school's annual reading sharing session. However, their explanation about why I should read it was frequently vague or confusing, leaving me wondering: Why can this book be at the top of the list for books that you should bring while travelling? Why can a boy who was raised in a graveyard by a community of ghosts inspire us to think about notions of friendship, growth, and independence? Out of curiosity, I decided to satisfy my quest during my travel to Laos with my family in the last summer holiday.

The main character of the book is Bod. He was just an 18-month-old baby while his family was murdered by a man named Jack. He toddled unnoticed up the street to a graveyard, where he was going to grow up and raised by the inhabitants there, including ghosts and vampires.

His relationships with ghosts and his friend Scarlett demonstrated that friendly connections with others can be an enjoyable and pleasant thing for people who are lonely. At first, Bod didn't have any friends of his age. But one day, while he was relaxing himself outdoors, he became interested in a girl who appeared unexpectedly with a toy mask. They had a pleasant talk and discovered that they had shared interests and beliefs. They made each other happy. The experience was precious to them especially Bod, who met his first real friend.

I had a similar experience too. In my journey in Laos, I met some children living in a countryside. They were thin and dressed in ragged clothes. When my family and I were slowly driving along roads, they walked towards us and shook their hands to us. We stopped and opened the windows of the car. I offered them some snacks and they accepted the food with a happy smile. We talked for a while and realised there were no adults at home with them at that time and they had to take care of themselves, because their parents were all working outside. However, they found another precious relationship - friendship, and they got on well with the strangers who quickly became their friends. It seemed that this was one of the happy memories in their lifetime.

Witnessing how Bod transformed from an innocent baby into a confident young man in the book, I understand the importance of bravery. While Bod was studying at school, two classmates Nick and Mo were going to beat him. However, he was extremely calm and used "Fade and Fear", a magic learned in the graveyard to make them feel scared and run away. I was impressed by one of the quotes of the book:

"Fear is contagious. You can catch it. Sometimes all it takes is for someone to say that they're scared for the fear to become real."

It makes a lot of sense to me. If I am brave to face obstacles in my daily life, they will no longer be scary to me. I was once an introverted girl who was afraid of any changes in life. Travelling used to make me feel confused and nervous. This time, I overcame the anxiety and stepped out of my comfort zone. I got to know the culture of a foreign country and had conversations with children there. Bravery has become a great way for both Bod and me to embrace new people and challenges in life.

The Graveyard Book has become an important inspiration in my journey. It is an unexpected and wonderful travel buddy. Every time I open the book and read parts of it, I feel encouraged to push my limits and feel confident to do anything, like how the book is ended:

> "Face your life, its pain, its pleasure, leave no path untaken."

It's a difficult challenge, but I can try my best to do so in my future life journeys.

Book Read

Book Title: The Graveyard Book : Neil Gaiman

Publisher: New York: HarperCollins Publishers, 2008.

Comments

• The writer is showing enthusiasm for the material read. Well-written and analytical. The content is enriched by providing concrete personal reflections.

Yuen Tsz Yin

G.T. (Ellen Yeung) College Topic A Meaningful Lesson in the Storm

mountains. On the road, I read a book called The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe. I was inspired by it on the journey. It was an insightful buddy for me. At first, I barely knew anyone on this trip, like the little girl called Lucy who discovered a wardrobe which brought her into the mysterious world Narnia. I was afraid but also excited as everything

Have you ever gone on a frightening and exciting trip? Recently, I went on a camping trip in the

about camping was new and unfamiliar to me. My companions had a lot camping experiences and were friendly, same as Mr. Tumnus, the nice faun in Narnia. They were kind to help me and lead me like the lamp-post in the entrance of Narnia. However, we met a storm on the third day. It was like the antagonist of the story, the White Witch, who called herself the Queen of Narnia. She made Narina always winter. She tricked Edmund, Lucy's second brother, with the enchanting dessert. He joined the White Witch.

The storm was terrible. It kept raining and raining. Our tent was soaked wet and we couldn't have any outdoor activities. In the story, Lucy and her other two siblings, Peter and Susan, needed to find the lion king Aslan to save Edmund and fight against the Witch. We were in a similar situation. We tried different ways to prevent our tent from flying away by strong wind and get water inside. In the mountains, the weather was freezing and we shivered all the time. By the time we thought the rain was over, a landslide happened. It was dangerous and we couldn't receive any signals on our phones. We were running out of food and water! Like the book, according to the deep magic of Narnia, a traitor's life belonged to the White Witch. Aslan decided to sacrifice himself to claim Edmund's life. He brought himself to the witch and was tortured. There was a courageous person called Tom in our team who decided to follow the map and headed to a nearby village for food under strong wind and a landslide. We were very anxious and worried about him, the same as how Lucy and Susan were nervous about Aslan in the brushes. They hid inside and watched as they couldn't sleep and were afraid something bad would happen.

At last, Aslan was killed. Susan and Lucy were miserable and they cried until no more tears left in them. Fortunately, the White Witch didn't know there was a deeper magic of Narnia that could bring Aslan back to life. On the other hand, Edmund brought his sword, smashing down the witch's wand. The brothers had defeated the witch. The four children were crowned as the kings and queens of Narnia. Tom also came back safe and sound with nourishment.

In this journey, I was fascinated by courage and companionship. I see courage from Lucy's curiosity. She was brave to enter Namia by herself. I see courage from Peter's adventurous characteristic. He killed the wolf to prevent it from hurting Susan and finding the white witch. I see courage from Edmund's confession. He fought against the Witch at the end of the story. I see courage from the sacrifice of Aslan. He claimed Edmund's life with his. I see courage in Tom's obligingness. He searched for help for the team under the dangerous storm. At last, I also found courage in myself to finish the whole frightening camping journey.

Companionship with kindness and helpfulness made up a team. When Edmund was caught, the siblings tried their best to rescue him. When Aslan died, the girls were sorrowful. When we were in danger in the camp, team members found ways to help. This demonstrated that when one in a team was in a bad situation, others would never give up to help. Everyone in a team had their own strengths; they couldn't lose each other. In the end, this book was also a great companion and buddy on my journey. It was by my side when I learnt this lesson and I have learnt a meaningful lesson from it too.

Book Read

Book Title: The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe

: C.S. Lewis Author

Publisher : London: HarperCollins Children's Books, 2001.

Comments

- The structure was carefully planned. Demonstrated an orderly flow of ideas. Easy to read. The expression was more than competent, the sentence structure was correct.
- Vivid descriptions and skilful organisation of ideas which effectively connected personal experiences with the themes of the book.

作品以原作展示並以獲獎者姓名排序。 Works are displayed in original form and arranged in the order of the winner's name.

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