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# THE ENGLISH NAVIGATOR

Address : 2 City Garden Road, North Point, Hong Kong



*We Can Fly High!*



*Henrietta Secondary School*

## *Editorial*

Welcome to the fourth edition of The English Navigator! This issue features some people's dreams. You will also find an interesting section about a story of a real pilot. Through people's different stories, hopefully you will be able to see how important English can be for your future. Better English, more chances!

Interviews with some teachers about their opinions of 'Morning Reading Period' are also included. Their sharing will be valuable to stimulate your reading on a daily basis.

The theme this time is 'We can fly high'. I hope you can try your best to achieve the goal you have set to really make yourself 'fly' high in life.

**Editor in-charge:**

**Cheung Fu Wah, Frederick (Head of English Department)**



# Profile ~ a story of a local New-Territory kid from the ground to the sky!



Being an airlines' pilot is many people's dream, especially for teenagers. To cope with the theme of our newsletter this time, I have interviewed one of my high-school friends who is presently a veteran airliner's pilot for one of the local airlines. Tse Hing Siu, Jackie went to the same high school as me in Canada. Over these years, his enthusiasm in aviation drove him to keep challenging himself in one of the toughest jobs in the world. Jackie is now serving as a senior first officer and flies regularly with the world's most advanced commercial aircraft B747-400 and B777 and safely take passengers from all over the world to different places. The following interview will show you how the dream of a new-territory kid became true.

C: Cheung Fu Wah J: Jackie Tse

C: What did you think of being a pilot when you were young?

J: When I was little, I lived in Yuen Long. To me, flying a big jet or being a pilot was certainly impossible. Compared with other foreigners, I thought it was difficult to enter the aviation industry and it was to be unachievable for a local-born teenager. Flying was only a dream to me at that time.

C: How did you finally become a pilot?

J: Although it was difficult to make this dream come true, I did not give up. After the achievement of my university degree in computer science and the private pilot license in Sydney, Australia, I returned to Hong Kong and applied for the local flight cadet program back in 1990. It took me a long time to finally get accepted because only a few numbers of candidates were chosen and sent to an aviation school located in Prestwick, Scotland, for a year and a half intensive flying training. After successfully completing the course and getting the pilot license, I returned to Hong Kong and started my career as a second officer. In order to keep my flying skills and professional license valid, a lot of 'checks' are given from time to time. However, I think those checks or examinations are important to enhance my professionalism because they drive me to be perfect. Keeping learning new things and being open-minded are imperative to those who fly. In fact, our slogan is, 'when you stop learning, you stop flying'. Indeed, being a pilot is a professional job in which a small error might turn to a big problem and affect the safety of passengers. Therefore, being precise is always required.

C: So, what are the most vital qualities needed by a pilot?

J: Being confident is the most important thing for a pilot. If you do not have confidence to know what you do, nothing can be done. On the contrary, being over-confident should be avoided because if you overestimate yourself, it would be easy to make mistakes that might affect others. Being mature is also necessary so that good-decision skills can be fully practised. I truly believe that the aforementioned elements are valuable to assist me as a successful pilot.



C: What significant role does English play in your job?

J: It is no doubt that English is an international language that is being used widely in an international aviation field. A good English command is definitely required. It is not only for the operation with the air traffic communication on a daily basis, but also for the urgency. Making an effective and meticulous decision is very crucial during a flight. Having a good command of English helps communicate with other crews from different countries on board. The way you presenting your ideas and convincing others certainly requires a good command of English. Thus, for those who want to be a pilot, I encourage them to learn English because it will be a basic tool for them to enter the field but also it will help them survive in a competitive world. Remember, there is no 'free lunch'. All you need to do is to try your best to achieve what you can achieve.



# My Dreams

Everyone has own his/her dreams. Martin Luther King had said, 'I have a dream'. This famous quote has touched many people's hearts. Dreams can drive us to do many

things that might not easily be done. In this section, some of our students would like to share with you their dreams. Let's see what their dreams are.

I have a dream that greed no longer exists in this world. Today, many people only live to make money. As days go by, money becomes the most important thing in people's life. Consumerism and materialism are the kings and queens of the world. These things are worshipped by shoppers from Tai Koo Shing to Pacific Place and Kowloon Tong, from Hong Kong to Sydney, from London to New York — and in the whole world over. People at the weekends do not usually spend their time at the beach or homes, but in the shopping malls. People eat and buy and then buy until their wallets are empty and credit cards have been used over their spending limits. This is a very sad state of affair. It seems that people can only be happy when they buy something new. These people live by the creed that greed is good and to have more is better. But in their hearts, there is an emptiness that money cannot fill. I have a dream that greed no longer fills the heart of man. This is my dream!

~by Chan Tak Chi, David (F.4D)



I have a dream! I have a dream that people everywhere have somewhere comfortable to come home to. Many people say that Hong Kong is the richest city in Asia, yet we still have people sleeping under fly-overs. The only home these people have is the clothing on their backs. The only comfort they have is the generosity. When I look at these people and think they are lazy. Others look at them and cannot understand what went wrong in their life. It would be true to say that most people do not do anything because most people have no homes, that society no longer cares and no longer wants to help. I hope that some days soon there will be no such thing as street people. May everybody have a roof over his head? This is my dream!

~by Lam Long Tung, Naomi (F.3F)

I have a dream that every child can go to school and every child will be educated in a school, where there are teachers and friends to play with in our world today. Many children go without these basic needs. There are children who steal, children who work until 12:00 a.m. every night and children searching for food in the rubbish tips that the rich create. This is wrong, unfair and sad. Therefore, I dream that every child will have a proper education.

~ by Katherine Tian Rigby (F.1E)



I have a dream, that there are no broken families in this world. Families where there is no shouting, screaming, fighting and hitting. Families, where the mum and dad love each other and love the children. Families where the children are not afraid of going to their parents when they have problems. Families who sit down to have a home-cooked meal. And so that they care for each other, by saying 'What did you do today?' or 'Did you have a good day?' Families, where the parents can come back home from work early enough to say, 'I love you!' to their children. We live in a world today where the generation gap is larger then ever. This is not healthy and not right. I wish for families to be happy and safe. This is my dream!

~ by Yip Ka Ying, Beatrice (F.2F)





My dream is that drug abuse and drug addiction no longer ravages out society and cause misery and suffering for teenagers. Every year, more and more people get attracted to experimenting with supposedly 'harmless' recreational drugs. In no time at all; however, they become slaves to the drugs, and will do anything to obtain the all-important 'high'. Our young people think that drugs are cool, and they get pressured by their friends into doing something that they know is wrong. Bad things can happen with drugs. People may turn to stealing or even selling themselves to support their habit. They may get HIV or AIDS because of their dangerous lifestyles. Death may be their only salvation. A very sad end to a life could have otherwise been so glorious. My dream is that there is no drug addiction. This is my dream

~ by Kong Lai Fung, Viktoria (F.3C)

## ENGLISH MORNING READING PERIOD

A 'Morning Reading Period' has been adopted since 2002 in our school. It helps cultivate student's reading habit through a twenty-minute session. From Monday to Friday, students can enjoy reading their own chosen materials in a quiet reading atmosphere on the campus every morning. In our Morning Reading Period, two months a year have been scheduled for English-reading activities. The purpose is to provide students with a greater opportunity to enhance their English capacity through reading.



In this section, we have conducted some special interviews with teachers to see what they say about this activity.

**Interviewer: Chan Tak Chi, David (4D)**

**Interviewee: Chan Wai Kwon (Deputy Principal)**

**Q1: What is the main purpose of holding an English reading month?**

Answer: It is no doubt that the school wants the students to put more attention on English and provides the students with more opportunities to use English. As English is an international language, it is important for us to build up our vocabulary bank and create an English environment.

**Q2: Do you have any suggestions of English books you will recommend us to read?**

Answer: I think students should choose books that they like. However, I have also some suggestions. There is an English Magazine called CNN Interactive English Magazine. In this magazine, you can learn many different kinds of global topics in English and there is also a CD-ROM that you can listen to. One thing I want to emphasize is that there are many ways to improve English. For example, listen to the English program and songs all according to your interest. However, please make good use of your Mass Media.

**Q3: As you have looked around so far, what do you think our school's student should improve?**

Answer: Most of the students are doing very well. However, I think students should well prepare their English reading materials and work on their attitude too. They should set a task for themselves and give themselves a deadline. Overall, they should have a target and be well-prepared.





**Interviewer: Kong Lai Fung, Viktoria (F.3D)**

**Interviewee:** Au Ping Fung (English Teacher)

**1. Do you think English reading month is good for students?**

Of course! When students read more English books, they definitely learn more vocabulary and get more exposure to the English language.

**2. When did you begin to read English books?**

Since primary one. Since my school was an Anglo-Chinese one, we were asked to read a lot of English books from time to time. Since then I've cultivated an English reading habit.

**3. Would you recommend any books to our students?**

"The Diary of Anne Frank." It is about a thirteen-year-old Jewish girl, Anne Frank, who went into hiding for two years in a storeroom. It was written by herself during the Second World War. When she was 13 years old, her family fled Nazi Germany in fear of persecution. They went to Holland, where they hid for two years in a sealed-off back room of an Amsterdam office building. They were eventually betrayed and the family was taken to a Nazi concentration camp in Belsen, where Anne died. From Anne's diary, one could see that the girl was always striving to live up to her high expectations in life, despite the unusual circumstances.

**4. Could you give some advice to our students on how to choose a suitable book?**

Choose a book that you like, that is, one that you find interesting. You'll keep reading it till the end. Remember to choose a book that suits you. Never force yourself to read a book that you find boring and difficult. Otherwise, you'll lose interest very soon. Once you've developed an interest in reading, you'd love to pick up an English book very often.

"I like reading both English and Chinese books. I think the English Morning Reading Month can effectively help students learn English. As long as students read more English books, it does not matter whether they choose simple English books".

~ Ip Ying Kit, David (Mathematics Teacher)

"The English Reading month has provided me with a good opportunity to read English books which I do not usually practise on a daily basis. I find that the English reading activity can effectively help students have more exposure to English. I hope the English Morning Reading Month can be held more frequently every year".

~ Ng Mo Fun (Head of History Department)





# School Events

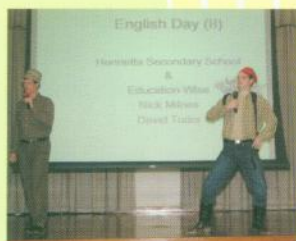
## English Day 2004

In order to motivate students to learn English, the English Department organized a lot of activities for students this year. On the English Day last March, we invited some native English teachers from Education-Wise to conduct a very interesting stage performance in which David and Nick introduced some effective ways of learning English through their impressive and remarkable presentation. Teachers and students really enjoyed the show.



## School Athletic Meet

The 25th Henrietta School Athletic Meet was held last April. Athletes from different houses showed their prowess in track and field events at the Siu Sai Wan Sports Ground. The stadium was packed with highly spirited spectators. House members had wholeheartedly decorated their sections of the stands with colorful banners depicting characters and themes associated with their teams. One special arrangement for this year was the “bilingual public announcement”. With a view to creating an English-Speaking Environment for students, all public announcements were given in Chinese and English so as to provide students with more exposure to English. Teachers and students found this new arrangement practical and beneficial to English learning.



## English debating team

Our school's English debating team was set up in 2002. Now we already have 18 members from Form 1- 5. Those students are given an intensive and professional debating training program not only for public speaking, but also for daily English communication skills.

Mr. Cheung Fu Wah, who is the instructor of the debating team, has found a significant improvement in all members since the start of the program. He also finds that the debating team is a long-term project to help students grow with proper English training in Henrietta. The English debating team also plays an important role in helping establish an English-speaking campus in Henrietta.



### Members of English Debating Team:

Antonio Hui, David Chan, Beatrice Yip, Heidi Louie, Katherine Tian, Naomi Lam, Emily Lam, Viktoria Kong, Fiona Fok, Elaine Yiu, Candy Soo, Sally Wong, Jennifer Chan, Katy To, Vanetta Lam, Vanessa Ton, Rainbow Lai & Yvonne Chan.  
Instructor: Mr. Cheung Fu Wah