Shung Tak Catholic English College
Summer 2006 Assignment
Secondary Six promoted to Secondary Seven

If you want to do the best you can do in English, it is highly recommended that you treat this summer assignment seriously and NOT leave it till the last minute. You will get back what you have put in. Remember that!!!!!

Your summer assignment consists of two parts which cover the following areas:

- Reading
- Writing
- Speaking
- Note-taking skills

**Part I (Reading and Writing)** You will need a LONG Shung Tak exercise book (lined on both sides) for this task.

For the reading and writing part, you need to make use of the South China Morning Post that you should have subscribed to. You need to find eight themes to write on using the newspaper. The details are as follows:

1. Choose an article from the main papers (i.e. not the Young Post). The articles must not all be from the same week.
2. After reading the article, state the theme of the topic. Formulate a topic like the one that you find in the AS Use of English Writing question-paper.
3. Write out the theme and formulated topic at the top of the page.
4. Cut out and paste the article in your book.
5. Write an essay, article, letter, or letter to the editor etc. Remember to time yourself, 1 hour maximum and you should be writing about 600 plus words.

**Part II (Speaking, Oral and Note-taking)** You will need another LONG Shung Tak exercise book for this task.

For the speaking part of this assignment, you need to:

1. Watch programmes on TV or on the Internet.
2. Jot notes as you watch.
3. Make a note-card and present this to a classmate at least once a week. Ask this person to use the assessment form.
4. Stick the note-card in another exercise book together with the assessment form.

For the note-taking part of this assignment, you need to

1. Use the same exercise book.
2. Get a friend to dictate 50 words and phrases weekly to you. These can be from the SCMP or the Internet.
3. Give a theme.
4. Mark the exercise when completed.
5. Evaluate your performance by writing a few lines commenting on your performance. Explain what needs to be done for improvement.

Please note:

Some of the past papers for the oral have also been scanned into the LINKS, ENGLISH DEPARTMENT, of our school's homepage. You are strongly recommended again to make use of the individual presentations section for additional oral practice.

For those who will like to do some additional pieces of writing, here are some suggested topics:

1. Some people say that certain pop and film ‘stars’ do not provide good role models for the younger generation. However, others maintain that these stars have the right to privacy, and that what they do in their private life is no business of the public.
   Write an essay to support or counter the view that ‘stars’ in Hong Kong have the duty to provide a good example of behaviour for young people. Give reasons for your opinion.
2. Recent reports have stated that more young people in Hong Kong are overweight and unfit than ever before. Health experts are becoming worried about the life styles of young people who do less exercise than they should and who have an unbalanced diet.
   Write an article for your school magazine giving reasons for this problem and suggesting how young people can improve their fitness. In your article, try to persuade the students in your school to adopt a healthier life style.
3. Since the introduction of Advanced Supplementary level (AS-level) subjects, there have been comments by some educational professionals about the need to broaden the sixth-form curriculum. It has been proposed that all sixth formers should take four AS-level subjects (including Use of English and Chinese Language and Culture) and two A-levels instead of two AS-levels and three A-levels.
   Write an essay on this topic. Discuss whether it is desirable to broaden the sixth-form curriculum. Outline the advantages and disadvantages of this proposal, ending your essay by giving your own opinion.
4. In recent years, Hong Kong filmmakers and actors have become popular all over the world.
   Write an article on this topic for your school magazine. Discuss the reasons for the popularity of Hong Kong filmmakers and actors, and for the international success of Hong Kong movies. Give your article a title.