

105 學年度第 1 學期高中部英文作文比賽

1. Life is full of challenges. You may have to make decisions in the face of the difficulties. Sometimes you make a right decision; sometimes, wrong. Write a composition of at least 500 words to tell a right (or wrong) decision you have made before, which has an impact on your life.
2. 比賽時間：13:10~14:50，共 100 分鐘。
3. 不得使用任何形式的字典與電子載具，其餘依本校考試規定辦理。

Forrest Gump once said "Life is like a box of chocolates; you never know what you're going to get." When I first saw this movie, I found this saying pretty humorous and never took it too seriously. To describe life — a profound and complicated concept as a box of chocolates? I thought Forrest was merely joking, but later on, I started to find some sense in his words. What he's talking about is not chocolates, it's not knowing what you get. It is because of this uncertainty that makes the decisions we choose important. And it is the impact of our decisions that brings the meaning into life.

When I was a kid, I was always fascinated by people playing the guitar; whether they are performing an electric guitar in a rock band, or singing and playing at the same time around a bonfire, the beautiful melody it produces always attracted me wherever I go. To play the guitar is a childhood dream. Unfortunately, I never really had the chance of learning the instrument. I started playing the piano at a fairly young age, my parents even taken me to chess class, but no matter how hard I prayed and begged them, they just won't let me buy a guitar. "Practice your piano first!" They will angrily exclaim, "Guitar is a big waste of money, why should we buy you a guitar if you can't even play the piano?!" It was a terrible feeling. The feeling of wanting to achieve something but lacking the one component of taking the first step, and from that day hence, I never brought it up again.

Not until I was in high school have I had the feeling that I might actually make my dreams come true. My best friend started practicing the guitar and was pretty good at it. Two thoughts came to my mind when he played his first song to me: The first was that I was so excited that I can play a guitar (his) for the first time and he'll be my mentor, but the second thought was that I was kind of jealous of him. He's the

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type of person that needed extra attention in music class since he ~~couldn't~~ even play one note on his recorder, and his singing is so terrible that the crowing of crows have a higher chance of winning first place in a singing contest than him passing the first round. Not that I hated him or whatsoever, but a person who basically had zero to none music fundamentals actually had the chance of playing the guitar before me.

It had been years since I ~~last~~ pleaded my parents to let me learn the guitar. I told them about my friend, who had basically transformed from a music idiot to someone I worship, and to my surprise, ^{parents and I} ~~my~~ actually reached a deal: They would buy me a guitar but won't hire a teacher for me, and they made me promise I would practice it every day. I promised them, and entered the school's guitar club, and from that day on, I've been playing ever since.

Well, this road have never been easy. When I first entered, I was clueless on how to play: I couldn't press the strings properly, and was always taking forever to change the chords. That feeling of helplessness felt extremely bad especially when my fellow clubmates are all playing and singing along with our teacher. But it never let me down and instead, I started to put more time and effort in my guitar skills. I would be watching videos all over youtube trying to find guitar tutorials that suit my level, my fingers will be full of blisters after practicing ~~about~~ ^{on} hour every day, and my grades plummeted ever since but I never regretted my choice. Because whenever I practice a new song or play one I already know, a feeling of relaxation and peace will wash over me, and it feels as if all my worries and fears ~~fade~~ ^{fade} as I am strumming the music.

I think our decision really affects our lives, as it's so hard to imagine my senior high school years without a guitar. Now, as club leader in my second year, I'm busier than ever, trying to learn one new song after another, worrying about our performances and club duties while trying not to drop too far in my grades. Looking back to the time when I first touched a guitar, I always question myself what would it be like if I hadn't made the decision of choosing the guitar club, but chosen basketball club instead. Everything would be so different, because the impact is way bigger than guitar, it's my youth, my teen spirit, giving it all to the club. Life is like a

box of chocolates, and I happened to pick just the right one.
