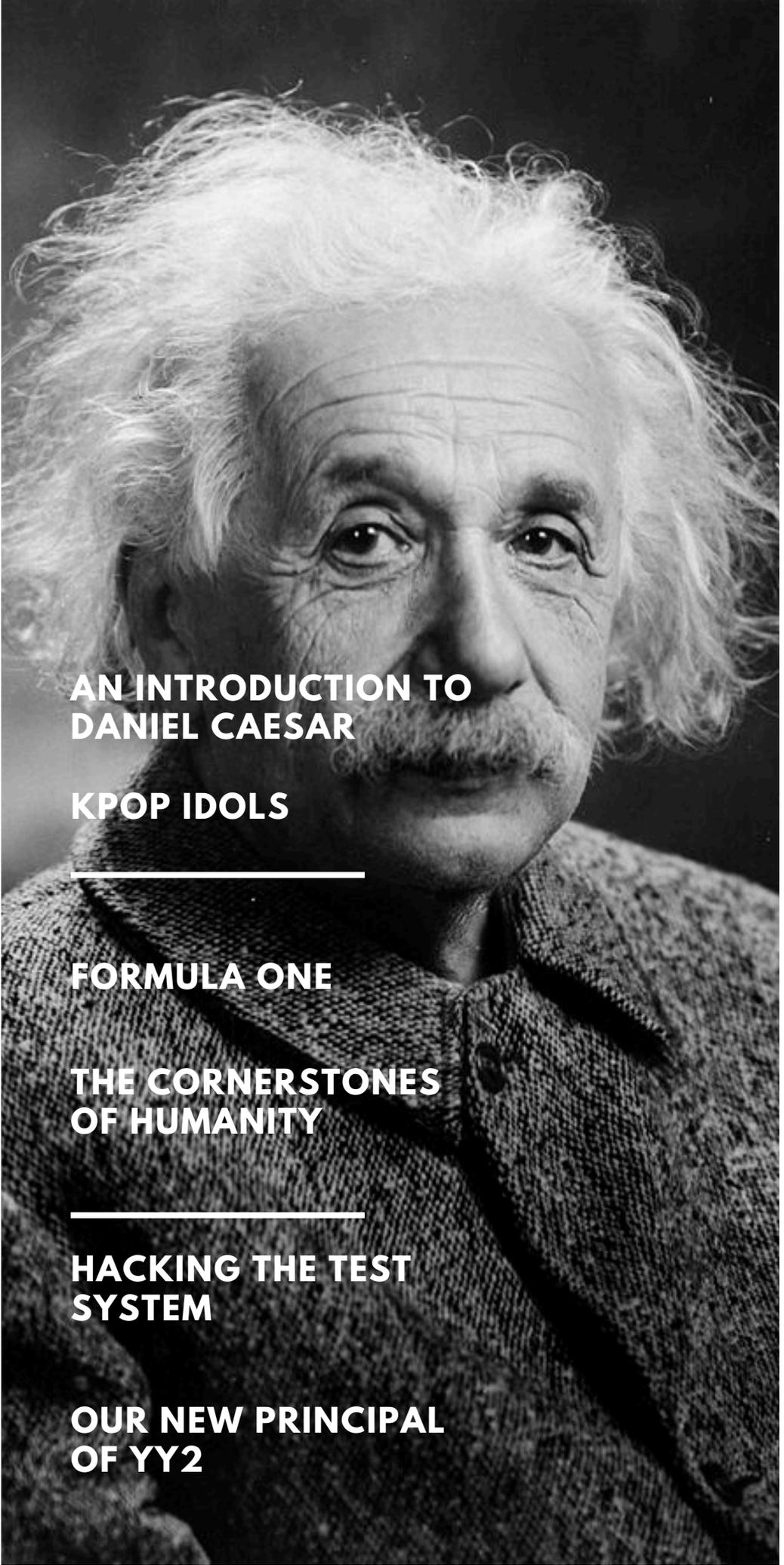


YY2 VOICE

**SPRING
2026**

English magazine by the students and for the students

A black and white portrait of Albert Einstein, showing his characteristic wild, white hair and mustache. He is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile. The background is dark and out of focus.

**AN INTRODUCTION TO
DANIEL CAESAR**

KPOP IDOLS

FORMULA ONE

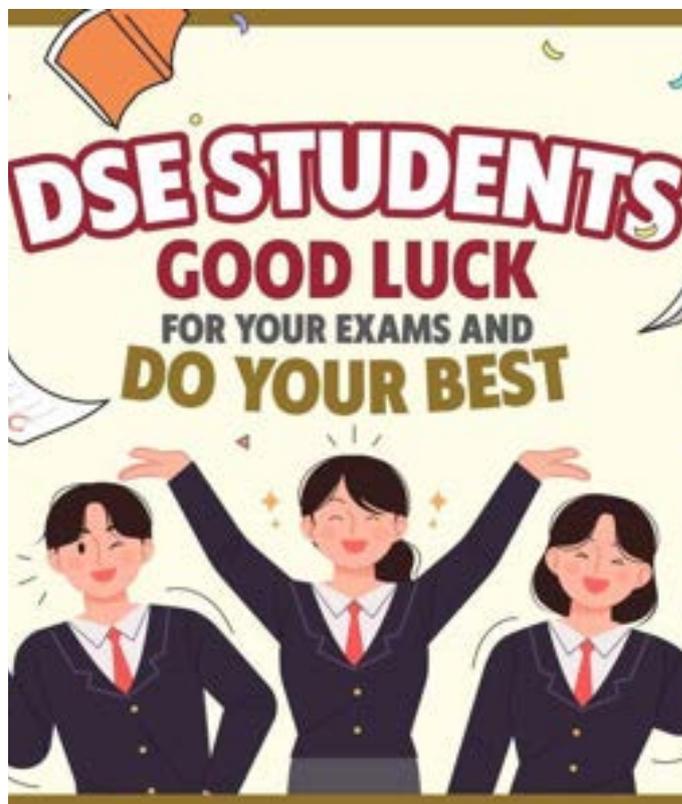
**THE CORNERSTONES
OF HUMANITY**

**HACKING THE TEST
SYSTEM**

**OUR NEW PRINCIPAL
OF YY2**

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- FROM SOULFUL WHISPERS TO STADIUM ANTHEMS: AN INTRODUCTION TO DANIEL CAESAR
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- FUN & GAMES



EDITOR'S VOICE

First of all, we need to say Good Luck to the S.6 students in the forthcoming DSE Exams!! We wish you great results and a wonderful future!

The English Ambassadors have written an array of super interesting topics once more. Enjoy reading about music, sport and fashion. If you need some motivation, then read about how to learn effectively or be inspired by our new principal.

Whatever your interest may be, We're sure you will enjoy reading the latest YY2 Voice edition.



FROM SOULFUL WHISPERS TO STADIUM ANTHEMS: AN INTRODUCTION TO DANIEL CAESAR

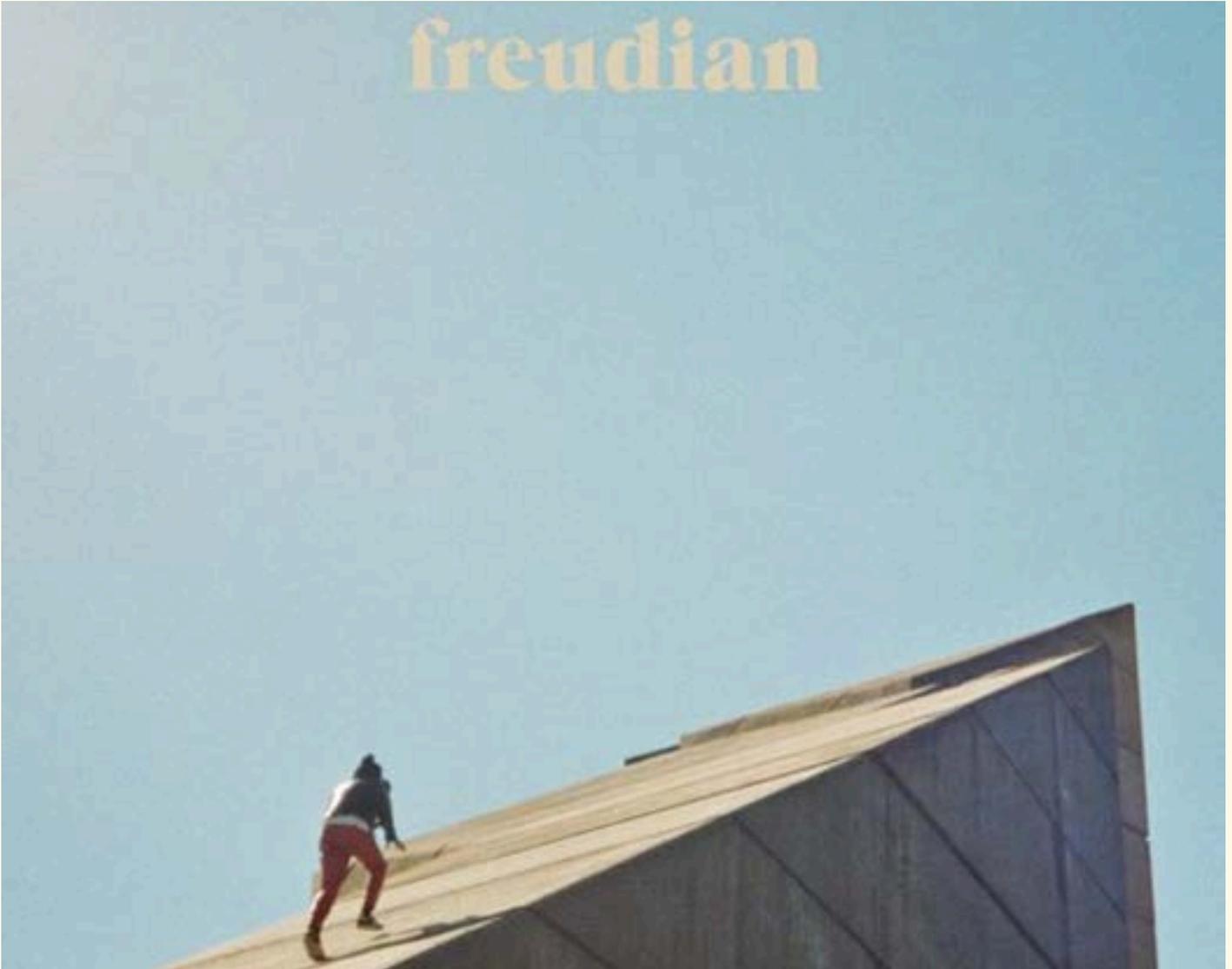
3E Maegan Lui Yi Ting



An introduction of the Artist

Born Ashton Darnell Simmonds on April 5, 1995, in Oshawa, Ontario, Daniel Caesar has emerged as a defining voice and a *pivotal* force in contemporary music. His work represents a profound and introspective wing of the modern R&B renaissance, celebrated not only for its raw emotionality and spiritual depth but also for its significant impact on the genre's direction and commercial landscape.

freudian



Daniel's Iconic Signature: Gospel, Guitar, and Vulnerability

Caesar's sound is a masterful alchemy of distinct elements. It is rooted in the gospel-infused soul of his choir-based upbringing, lending his music a transcendent, yearning quality—a key factor in the broader resurgence of gospel warmth in mainstream R&B. Unlike the synth-heavy landscape of contemporary R&B, his foundational work is built on warm, minimalist, and guitar-driven arrangements, creating an atmosphere of striking intimacy and helping to popularize the "bedroom soul" movement. Above all, his power lies in lyrical vulnerability, he explores love, faith, doubt, and heartbreak with a poet's precision, expanding the thematic palette of modern R&B toward greater introspection.

A Meteoric Rise: Freudian

Caesar's debut studio album, *Freudian* (2017), arrived as a sleeper hit and swiftly became a modern classic. Its success demonstrated a powerful industry model: an artist with a guitar and raw talent could achieve massive commercial and critical success independently. With timeless tracks like "Get You" (featuring Kali Uchis) and the Grammy-winning duet "Best Part" (with H.E.R.), he crafted the defining love anthems for a generation. The album's success was cemented at the 2019 Grammy Awards, winning Best R&B Performance and instantly establishing him as a critical darling with undeniable influence.

Artistic Evolution: Experimentation and Expansion

His follow-up, CASE STUDY 01 (2019), revealed an artist in deliberate evolution. It presented a darker, more psychedelic exploration, trading some of the warmth of Freudian for existential rock influences and collaborations with visionaries like Pharrell Williams and John Mayer. This phase highlighted his commitment to artistic growth over commercial formula, reinforcing his role as an album-oriented auteur in a singles-driven industry.

The Return of the century: NEVER ENOUGH and Grammy Validation

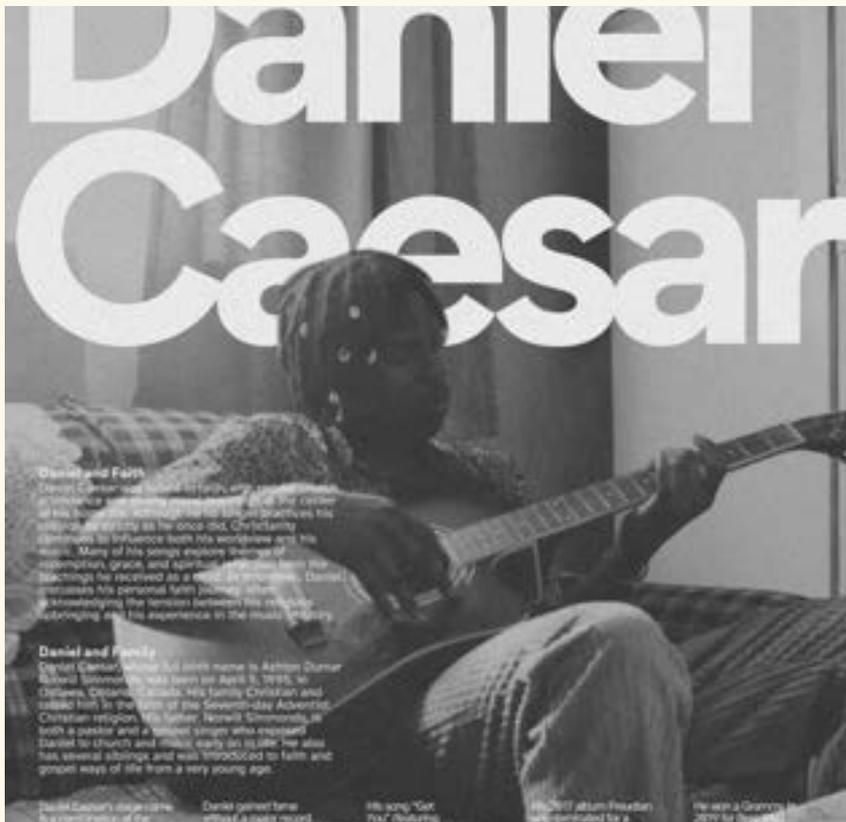
After a period of *refinement*, Caesar returned in 2023 with his most ambitious work yet: NEVER ENOUGH. This album is his cinematic masterpiece, weaving themes of grief, fame, isolation, and resilience into a grand, orchestral tapestry. Hits like "Let Me Go" and "Always" displayed a more polished yet deeply raw evolution. The album's critical and commercial peak was winning the 2024 Grammy Award for Best R&B Album**, a powerful affirmation of his enduring artistry, sustained relevance, and proof that profound, album-length statements can achieve the highest industry accolades.

Collaborative Ecosystem and Lasting Influence

Daniel Caesar stands as a central node in a network of pioneering alt-R&B talent. His collaborative spirit—working with artists like H.E.R., Kali Uchis, Omar Apollo, and serpent with feet, has fostered a credible, artist-led ecosystem of mutual growth. His influence is widely felt; he is credited with inspiring a global wave of artists toward greater lyrical intimacy, live instrumentation, and emotional authenticity, often discussed alongside icons like Frank Ocean and D'Angelo.

Legacy: Redefining Success in R&B

Daniel Caesar's legacy is being carved as a songwriter's songwriter and a musician's musician. His success is structural: he helped alter the trajectory of contemporary R&B by proving that *authenticity*, musical craftsmanship, and thematic depth could define commercial success. By revitalizing gospel-soul for a new era, championing the emotional power of live instrumentation, and exploring complex interiority with sensitivity, he has ensured his work transcends trends. Caesar's body of work strives not merely to entertain, but to heal, commune, and offer a space for profound reflection—a testament to an artist who has redefined what it means to *succeed* in the modern music industry.



- 6
1. pivotal (adj): 關鍵性的
 2. mainstream (n): 主流的
 3. undeniable (adj): 不可否認的

4. refinement (n): 提煉
5. authenticity (n): 確實性
6. succeed (v): 成功

K-pop idols

By 4C Vincy Chan Hong Ching, Ashly Mo Lai Kei,
Choco Shum Tsz Ying



Have you heard about TWICE? The group who just opened a concert in Hong Kong? They're this amazing K-pop girl group that has totally taken the world by storm ten years ago.

They debuted back in 2015 after a reality show called "Sixteen", where they showed off their talents and personalities. It's super cool how they ended up with nine members—Nayeon, Jeongyeon, Momo, Sana, Jihyo, Mina, Dahyun, Chaeyoung, and Tzuyu—all of them bringing something special to the group.

And what makes them become that famous? All of their songs are so catchy and fun! I mean, tracks like "Cheer Up" and "TT" are basically classics now. Every time I hear "Signal," I just want to dance! Moreover, they have a great bond with their fans, called ONCE. They really know how to make their fans feel special with tons of interactions on social media and fan meetings. (for those who have subscribed bubbles, you always get a message boom right?)

What really impresses me is their ability to keep evolving. With each comeback, they try something new, which keeps things exciting. It's no wonder they've won so many awards! I love how they're not just about music, but also about the positive vibes they bring. I always smile without noticing when I'm watching their videos, they are so cute. And this year is their 10th anniversary, I can't wait to listen to more of their songs in the future. They're definitely a group to watch!



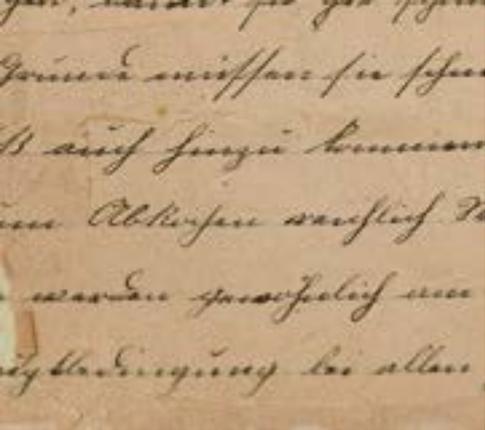
Stray Kids is a South Korean boy band that debuted in 2018 under JYP Entertainment. The K-pop group consists of eight members: Bang Chan, Lee Know, Changbin, Hyunjin, Han, Felix, Seungmin, and I.N. They are known for their self-produced music. In the group, there are three subgroups, 3RACHA , DANCERACHA and VOCALRACHA. .



Let's introduce two Australian members in the group. One of them is the leader - Bang Chan ,he is a composer, singer, dancer and producer in the Stray Kids 3RACHA sub-unit. He embodies the archetype of the complete artist. The other one is Felix , he's a real eye-catcher, both on stage and in the front row of the catwalk. Louis Vuitton was quick to spot him, making him an unexpected but powerful muse. He captivated onlookers with a refined and princely presence—looking as if he stepped straight out of a fairytale.

What truly sets Stray Kids apart from most other idols is their jaw-dropping vocals, addictive raps, and incredible dance moves that will give you the performance of a lifetime. It is addictive to watch Stray Kids' perform. In between scenes of tutting choreography and questioning themselves on why they keep getting attracted to someone, their music video embodies what the heart and mind goes through when you've fallen deep in the world of K-pop.



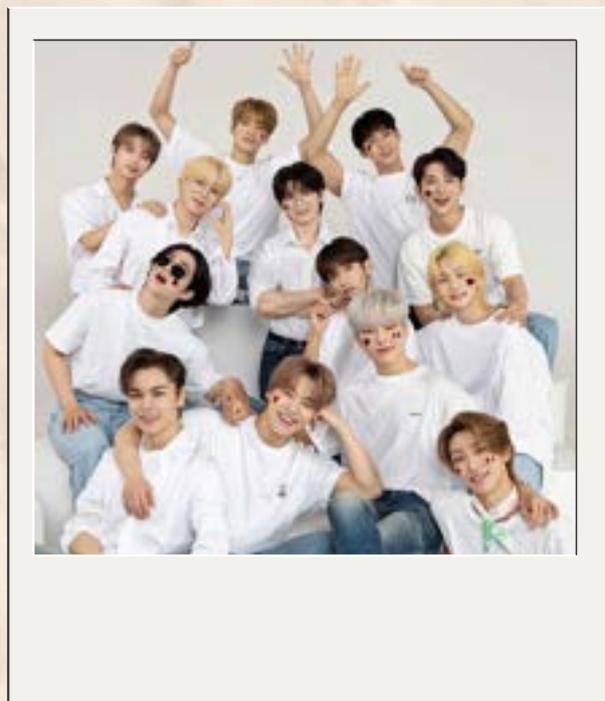


In the world of K-pop, there are many groups with their own charms, and SEVENTEEN is one that feels approachable and practical. Made up of 13 members (Scoups, Jeonghan, Joshua, Jun, Hoshi, Wonwoo, Woozi, DK, Mingyu, The8, Seungkwan, Vernon, Dino). They don't just perform, they put their hearts into making their music and dances come together.

The group has three small teams: Hip-hop, Performance, and Vocal. Each team focuses on what they love, and they help each other out to make their songs and stages better. In real life, they're just like friends who enjoy hanging out, you can often see them laughing or playing small games together in their shows. They don't try to be perfect all the time. Sometimes they mix up lines or make silly mistakes, which makes them feel more real.

One of the members, Jeon Wonwoo, shows this warmth and honesty well. As a key part of the Hip-hop Team, he has a calm style, often looking quiet at first with his usual glasses. But under that quiet look, he's kind and relatable. He likes playing games in his free time, just like many of us do. He also cares about fans' troubles and shares nice, comforting words. He enjoys reading and recommends books to his fans. His personality mixes calmness with warmth, making him easy to connect with.

For anyone who likes groups that work hard and feel like a big, warm team, SEVENTEEN is a nice one to know about.



1. personality (n): 性格
2. interaction (n): 交流
3. composer (n): 作曲家

4. archetype (n): 典型
5. addictive (adj): 使人上瘾的
6. recommend (n): 推荐



LUCID DREAMING

5D Manson Leung Chun Hei

Lucid dreaming is an interesting experience where a person knows they are dreaming, but they are still asleep. Unlike regular dreams, where you just watch what happens, in a lucid dream you can take control and change what's going on. This awareness can make your dream feel very real and exciting, blurring the line between sleep and being awake.

Lucid dreams happen during a part of sleep called REM (rapid eye movement), when most dreaming occurs. The important thing is realizing that what you see and feel is not real but a dream. Once you know this, you can often change the dream, like flying, moving to different places, or talking to dream characters in ways you can't do when awake.

Lucid dreaming happens because a part of the brain called the prefrontal cortex, which helps with thinking and making decisions, becomes more active than usual during sleep. Normally, this part is quiet when you dream, which is why dreams often seem strange or out of control. But in lucid dreams, this part "wakes up" enough to let you think clearly while still asleep.

Many people try lucid dreaming for different reasons. Some want to have fun and explore amazing places in their dreams. Others use it to face and stop bad dreams or to practice skills in a safe way.

Scientists are also interested in lucid dreaming because it helps them learn more about how the brain works and how we become aware. It can also help people with problems that give them nightmares, especially those with trauma, by letting them change the bad dream while it is happening.



There are ways to help yourself have lucid dreams.

Some common methods are checking often during the day if you are dreaming, writing down your dreams straight after fully awakening to remember them better, and practicing mindfulness or meditation to be more aware. Another popular trick is called “Wake Back to Bed,” where you wake up after a few hours of sleep and then go back to sleep trying to have a lucid dream.

Lucid dreaming opens a door to a special kind of awareness during sleep, mixing imagination and control. Whether for fun, healing, or curiosity, learning how to have lucid dreams can give you new and exciting experiences beyond waking life.



FORMULA ONE

THE WORLD'S MOST COSTLIEST AND MOST CAPTIVATING SPORT

5C Justin Cheung Ming Hon



Have you ever wondered which sport is considered the most expensive in the world? The answer is Formula One. A single F1 car costs around USD \$15.9 million—roughly HKD \$150 million—and that does not even include the enormous maintenance fees. In recent years, many people have shifted their attention to F1 after the release of F1: The Movie. Others fell in love with the raw speed and adrenaline. As for me, it is the strategic brilliance and teamwork behind every race that truly captivate me.

Formula One originated from the European Grand Prix motor- racing

championships of the 1920s and 1930s. The modern era of F1 began when the Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA) introduced standardized rules in 1946, shaping the sport into what we recognize today. The first official Formula One World Championship race took place at Silverstone in 1950, where Giuseppe Farina claimed victory and became the sport's first ever World Drivers' Champion. From that moment on, F1 began its steady rise into a global phenomenon.

After understanding its origins, it is time to explore the legendary teams and drivers who define this sport.

My personal favourites include Red Bull Racing, Mercedes, McLaren, Ferrari, and Aston Martin—all iconic teams with rich histories and unique strengths. When it comes to drivers, names like Ayrton Senna, Michael Schumacher, Lewis Hamilton, and Max Verstappen stand out. These athletes are admired for their masterful control, instinctive racing intelligence, and relentless pursuit of excellence. Senna and Schumacher, in particular, shaped the “golden age” of F1 and remain symbols of greatness to this day.

Behind every successful driver is a meticulously engineered machine. Cars such as the Mercedes-AMG F1 W11 EQ Performance (2020) and Red Bull’s RB19 (2023) showcase the pinnacle of modern engineering. Their cost comes from complex components including the power unit, chassis, gearbox, aerodynamic wings, and even the steering wheel, which alone can cost tens of thousands of dollars. Circuits like Yas Marina, Silverstone, and Baku are among my favourites—Baku especially memorable for Charles Leclerc’s iconic moment: “I am stupid.” Additionally, tire strategy plays a crucial role in determining the race outcome. Depending on track and weather conditions, teams must choose between soft tires, mediums, hards, or switch to intermediate or full wet tires during rain. A single wrong decision can cost a driver the entire race.

Some might think Formula One is simply cars driving in circles, but the sport is far more complex, emotional, and unpredictable. A perfect example is the dramatic final race of the 2021 Abu Dhabi Grand Prix. On the last lap, Lewis Hamilton led the race with what seemed like a secure advantage. However, Max Verstappen, equipped with fresher tires, seized the opportunity after a late-race safety car and overtook Hamilton in a heart-stopping finish that shocked the world.

Moments like this are exactly why I encourage everyone—whether you are a newcomer or a lifelong fan—to watch Formula One. Formula One is more than just a contest of speed. It is a combination of engineering genius, split-second decision-making, global teamwork, and extraordinary human talent. From its historic origins to its modern-day rivalries, F1 continues to inspire millions. If you have never watched a race, start now—you might just find yourself falling in love with the thrill, just like I did.



1. maintainance (n): 維護
2. originated (v): 起源
3. standardized (ajd): 標準化

4. masterful (adj): 精湛的
5. unpredictable (adj): 無法預測的
6. combination (n): 混合

iPhone 17 Plus & Apple's Environmental Efforts

5D Krystal Chan Lok Yin
Vincy Shek Wing Size





TIRED OF YOUR OLD PHONE? NEED A NEW ONE? THEN LOOK NO FURTHER AND TRY OUT THE NEW IPHONE!

The iPhone 17 Plus is a user-friendly, powerful device designed for daily use. It features a 6.7-inch OLED screen with 120Hz refresh rate, making scrolling and videos smooth. The display has a peak brightness of 1600 nits, so it's easy to see outdoors.

Powered by the A17 chip, the phone runs fast for apps, games, and multitasking. It has a reliable 4000mAh battery that delivers all-day use, perfect for work or travel. The camera system includes a 12MP main lens with optical Anti-shake and a 12MP front camera, taking clear photos and selfies. It also has IP68 water resistance and MagSafe wireless charging for convenience. Available in classic colors like black, white, blue, green, and red, its glass back and aluminum frame feel premium yet durable.

Apple is committed to protecting the planet. Since 2015, it has cut global emissions by over 60%, moving toward its 2030 carbon-neutral goal. All Apple facilities have used renewable energy since 2018, and its suppliers now support 17.8 gigawatts of clean energy worldwide.

The company uses 99% recycled rare earth elements in product magnets and 99% recycled cobalt in its batteries. It also uses more recycled aluminum, gold, and lithium to reduce mining needs. All new Apple products come in 100% fiber-based packaging, cutting plastic use. Apple's disassembly robot Daisy recovers materials from old iPhones, and its Zero Waste program diverts millions of tons of waste from landfills. These efforts make the iPhone 17 Plus not just a great device, but part of a greener future.



1. user-friendly (adj): 易於使用的
2. battery (n): 電池
3. resistance (n): 電阻

4. committed (adj): 堅定的
5. material (n): 材料

Our new principal of YY2

3A Ken Liu Chin Kan, 3A Kyle Wong Cho Hei

We have a new principal this year. However, he is also a *familiar* face to YY2 as he used to be our vice-principal! Let's get to know Principal Yeung more.

1. Why did you want to be a teacher and why did you choose YY2 to teach?

Ask me why I became a teacher and why I chose to teach at 'YY2.' I studied Chinese literature in university, and students from this background often have the desire to pursue a career in education, which is closely related to my degree. As for why I chose to teach at 'YY2,' it's all about fate. I previously taught at another school, which relocated to Tin Shui Wai, making it quite far from my home. So, I wanted to find a school that was closer.

2. How did you feel when you began your role as the new principal of YY2?

As the new principal, there's quite a bit of pressure, and that pressure comes from the excellence of my *predecessor*, Principal Lam, which seems hard to surpass. However, since I have taken on the role of principal, I aim to lead the school to the best of my ability. I hope that all students can learn well and happily under my guidance, enriching their lives in the process.

3. How do you like to relax and recharge yourself after school?

Perhaps because I studied Chinese literature, when I want to relax or recharge, my go-to is often just reading a book, which is a great way to unwind. But if I'm really tired sometimes, I might go watch a movie, as I really enjoy cinema. Watching movies is also a very relaxing activity that allows you to *escape* from reality. Whether in a theater or at home, those one or two hours can be incredibly relaxing. Plus, with so many online resources available now, you can watch anytime and anywhere with fewer restrictions. If I have more time, I might also go for a workout, which is a healthy way to relax.

4. What inspiration, maybe from a book, a podcast etc. that was so impressive that you feel will also inspire students?

This is a good question about how I influence my students. I once read a book called 'The Four-Leaf Clover', which mentions that success does not rely solely on luck. Why is this book titled 'The Four-Leaf Clover'? Because in Western culture, four-leaf clovers are rare, and finding one is considered extremely lucky.

However, the book emphasizes that to succeed, we cannot depend only on luck; we need to be well-prepared. With preparation, we are more likely to encounter opportunities, and when those opportunities arise, we can seize them. Therefore, everyone will encounter many opportunities in their lives, but the key is whether you are adequately prepared.

As a teacher, I hope my students will participate in more diverse activities and competitions so they can learn different knowledge and skills. This way, they can better prepare themselves for challenges, as true success is often not something that can be achieved through last-minute efforts. Although the book is titled 'The Four-Leaf Clover', it carries the message that individuals need to possess the necessary qualities and preparation to grasp opportunities when they arise."



Our new principal of YY2

5. Do you have a favourite motto or life philosophy that has significantly influenced your approach to life?

I believe this is similar to the book I mentioned earlier. An important lesson that has impacted my life is that "you cannot rely on luck." It is necessary to prepare well and give your best effort. I hope the students at YY2 also approach their tasks with the same *diligence*; only then can they achieve success. I find the students at YY2 very interesting, and many are good students, but why do they often perform poorly in the end? It's also due to not enough preparation and a lack of effort. It's a common saying that life doesn't offer a "take two." Many times, you might think, "I'll do better next time," but often, there isn't a "next time." Therefore, I believe in the importance of thorough preparation and giving your best effort; this has shaped my thoughts.

I teach my children the same way: one must do things earnestly. My wife and I have a requirement when helping our children study: they must be meticulous and serious while studying. They need to cover everything thoroughly to achieve good results.

6. What are your short term goals and long term goals for your new role as Principal?

In both the short term and long term, there is one main goal: to improve the *academic* performance of the students at YY2, especially in English, where I hope to see significant progress. However, there is also a short-term goal of ensuring that students have a happy and fulfilling life. If school isn't enjoyable, it can be quite difficult for them. Therefore, I hope students can look forward to going to school. In the long run, I aim to enable students to participate in more various activities.

Therefore, we hope to allow students with different strengths to excel in various fields, especially for those who enjoy music, like in the Chinese orchestra. We will support the Chinese orchestra to help it develop, and we have seen students from our school successfully enter performing arts academies to study Chinese music, demonstrating their good progress in this area.



Our school also places great importance on the arts. If you've been to our art room, you would know that we hope everyone can learn well in this beautiful environment. We also want to provide students with opportunities for artistic development.

In terms of physical education, we encourage a wide range of sports to meet the needs of different students. Personally, I hope for balanced development among students because, just like fingers, they have different lengths. It's impossible for every student to excel in sports, music, or academics, so we want to provide different opportunities for everyone. However, all students must focus on their studies; that is essential for everyone.

7. What are your expectations for all the teachers and students this year?

For teachers, my *expectation* is quite simple: I hope they can teach the students at YY2 with dedication and effort. I also wish for every student at YY2 to reach their full potential.

As for the students, as I mentioned earlier, I hope they can enjoy their school life and their learning experiences. If they can truly enjoy learning and school life, I believe each student will achieve good results academically



1. familiar (adj): 熟悉的
2. predecessor (n): 前任
3. escape (v): 逃脱

4. diligence (n): 勤奮
5. academic (adj): 學術的
6. expectation (n): 期待

PLAY, POSE & PIXEL

3A HAILEY CHAN HOI KIU
3A KATHY MOK KA FU
3E JANA CHUNG CHINGTUNG



Have you ever been to Fashion's Tech-Packed Playground? It's the Coolest *Digital* Showcase of Hong Kong Fashion Fest 2025. If you have never heard of it, then let us describe the wonderful zones that you missed out on!

1. Vibe: Fashion For The Fun-Loving Crowd. Forget big old traditional runway trends—Play, Pose & Pixel is an 11-day digital fashion bash at AIRSIDE's Gate33 Gallery, curated by FabriX and partnered with Paris Fashion Week's elite team. In line with Hong Kong's drive for digital fashion leadership, all of this is aimed at a mix of nostalgia, tech and *inclusivity*. No elaborate tickets or dress codes — just pure fun for teens, kids and everyone who likes to play with styles. Big names like the Secretary for Culture arrived with grandstanding hype and call it a '*game-changer*' in fashion.

PLAY, POSE & PIXEL



2. A nostalgia zone: Doll House Magic. Zone 1's Doll House is a return to familiar memory lane, showcasing 40+ vintage luxury dolls covered in Dior, Givenchy and YSL fits. The local artist Ning Lau is adding 20 handcrafted Hong Kong-style art dolls to the mix, merging retro charm with city twinkling. It celebrates the small, silly beginning of our fashion ventures — dressing dolls — and connects that youthful creativity straight to the latest tech trends today.

3. The Tech Zones: Avatars & AR Couture. Zone 2's Avatar Era mirror tunnel transforms selfies into Roblox-like mini avatars, ideal for Instagram bangers and feisty self-expression. But the star is Zone 3's AR Fitting Room, where you can “wear” digital designs made by a list of artists — BLACKPINK's costume designer Didu, say; and Paris Olympic

visionary Kevin Germanier — and star Hong Kong up-and-comers like Tiger Chung. With 4D scan technology, you can zoom in on every couture stitch, giving sense of futuristic fashion that is completely on the ground.

4. The Finale: Virtual Me Afterparty. Zone 4 wraps it up with a Cantopop silent disco, where scanning yourself unlocks a futuristic-looking random avatar to come out of a silent disco. Your digital self-steps on a neon LED stage you love to dance IRL, chaotic, euphoric, and entirely memorable. Not only a show, but more than a series. Play, Pose & Pixel proves fashion is for all people; it's really just about having a good time, no matter if you're styling a doll, an avatar or yourself.



The Aurora Borealis

NATURE'S MOST DAZZLING LIGHT SHOW

5D Vivi Cheung Hoi Ki

Of all the natural wonders on Earth, few are as universally captivating as the *aurora borealis*, also known as the northern lights. This celestial phenomenon transforms the night sky into a living canvas, where ethereal ribbons of green, purple, pink, and white dance in a silent, hypnotic ballet. More than just a beautiful spectacle, the aurora is a breathtaking reminder of our planet's dynamic connection to the sun.

The science behind this magic is as fascinating as the sight itself. It begins with our sun, which constantly emits a stream of charged particles called the solar wind. When these particles hurtle toward Earth, they are funneled by our planet's magnetic field toward the North and South Poles. Here, they collide with gases in the upper atmosphere—oxygen and nitrogen. These collisions excite the gas *molecules*, causing them to release energy in the form of light. The specific colors we see depend on the type of gas and the altitude of the collision: oxygen produces the classic green and rare red hues, while nitrogen gives us stunning blues and purples.

Witnessing the aurora is an experience that *transcends* simple observation. It often begins subtly—a faint, ghostly glow on the horizon that might be mistaken for a distant cloud. Then, it gathers strength, morphing into shimmering curtains or arcs that ripple and sway as if moved by a cosmic breeze. In its most intense displays, known as "auroral substorms," the lights can explode into a frantic, swirling dance that fills the entire sky with vibrant, otherworldly color. The silence of the polar night, broken only by the crunch of snow underfoot, makes the visual symphony overhead feel even more profound and personal.

For those seeking this ethereal display, the world's northern *latitudes* offer front-row seats. Prime destinations include Tromsø in Norway, known as the "Gateway to the Arctic"; the vast, dark wilderness of Yellowknife in Canada; the stark, volcanic landscapes of Iceland; and the remote reaches of Finnish Lapland, where you can watch in a glass-roofed igloo. The best time to hunt for the lights is during the long, dark nights from late September to late March, far from the light pollution of cities.

The aurora borealis stands as one of our planet's most *magnificent* performances—a perfect interplay of solar physics and Earth's protective magnetism. To stand beneath its shimmering glow is to feel a deep sense of connection to the cosmos. A moment of pure awe that has inspired *myths*, art, and wonder for as long as humans have gazed upwards on a cold, clear night.



1. aurora borealis (n): 北極光
2. molecule (n): 分子
3. transcend (v): 超越

4. latitude (n): 緯度
5. magnificent (adj): 極好的
6. myth (n): 神話



THE CORNERSTONE OF HUMANITY:

5D Hilary So Hin Ching

I want you to take a moment and think about the last time you did something without thinking. The last time you simply accepted something as "just the way it is."

Now, imagine a different path. Imagine a question. A single, powerful, three-letter word: Why?

The great *physicist* Albert Einstein once said, "The important thing is not to stop questioning. Curiosity has its own reason for existence." He was living proof of his own words—a man whose personal curiosity literally reshaped our understanding of the universe. Einstein demonstrated that the act of questioning is not just a tool for science but the cornerstone of humanity. It is the driving force that built our modern world.

The destiny of humanity changed the instant our ancestors dared to ask, "Why?" after witnessing the *flickering* flames of a tree struck by lightning. Through questioning, we reached our earliest understandings of tools, languages, and societies.



HOW ASKING "WHY" BUILT OUR MODERN WORLD

For instance, consider this question: "Why must a life-preserving technology be so *lethal*?" This was the question that gripped Albert Einstein after he read a tragic news report in the 1920s about a family killed by toxic fumes leaking from their refrigerator. Driven by this *inquiry*, he presented a safer alternative to the world. While his refrigerator never made it into every home, its impact was profound. It encouraged a "safety first" approach in developing home equipment. Without Einstein's curiosity, we might never have shifted the discussion from "if" a safe refrigerator could be produced to "how" it could be made practical. His curiosity didn't just redesign a machine; it built a safer world.

And this power isn't reserved for geniuses in labs only. It exists in our daily lives, too.



Take this question: "Must paying for a simple train ticket be so slow?" This simple inquiry challenged Hong Kong's engineers as they witnessed crowds wasting time digging for coins and tickets. Their urge to find an answer led to the creation of the Octopus card—a *revolution* in convenience.

That same spark of curiosity, that same action to question, is the reason you don't have to carry cash around. It moved the world from 'if' instant payments were possible to 'how' to make them universal. From the existential to the everyday, progress begins not with a statement, but with a question. It could be the spark of a revolution or the quiet voice in a laboratory, classroom, or workshop that refuses to accept "because it just is" as an answer.

So, I leave you with this challenge: Don't just go through the motions. Don't accept the world as it is presented to you. Look at the ordinary around you—the paper bag, the payment system, the appliance in your kitchen—and dare to ask, "Why?"

"Why is it this way?" "Could it be better?"

Because that question, that beautiful, *disruptive*, human question, is the very cornerstone of our past, and it is the tool we must use to build our future.

1. physicist (n): 物理學家
2. flickering (adj): 閃爍的
3. lethal (adj): 致命的

4. inquiry (n): 詢問
5. revolution (n): 革命
6. disruptive (adj): 顛覆性的

HACKING THE

Do you always run out of time on reading tests? Think you got JUST the answer for listening but then your goldfish brain forgot the rest? Speaking points got zero substance? Then this article is just for you! The following is a collection of reading, listening, and speaking tips from yours truly! (Where's writing? Well, you're looking at it now.)

~Tips:~

READING:

Read the passage AS you do the questions.

Why bother reading the whole passage when you're strapped for time AND read slow? Leave that for leisure readings. Besides, 70% (rough estimate) of the passage is just filler.

If the question points you to a certain paragraph/line, lock in on that and its keyword(s). Personally, I mark a symbol next to the paragraph/line number to enhance focus.

For questions that sum up the entire passage, ignore the choices that encapsulate minuscule parts only, aka examples.

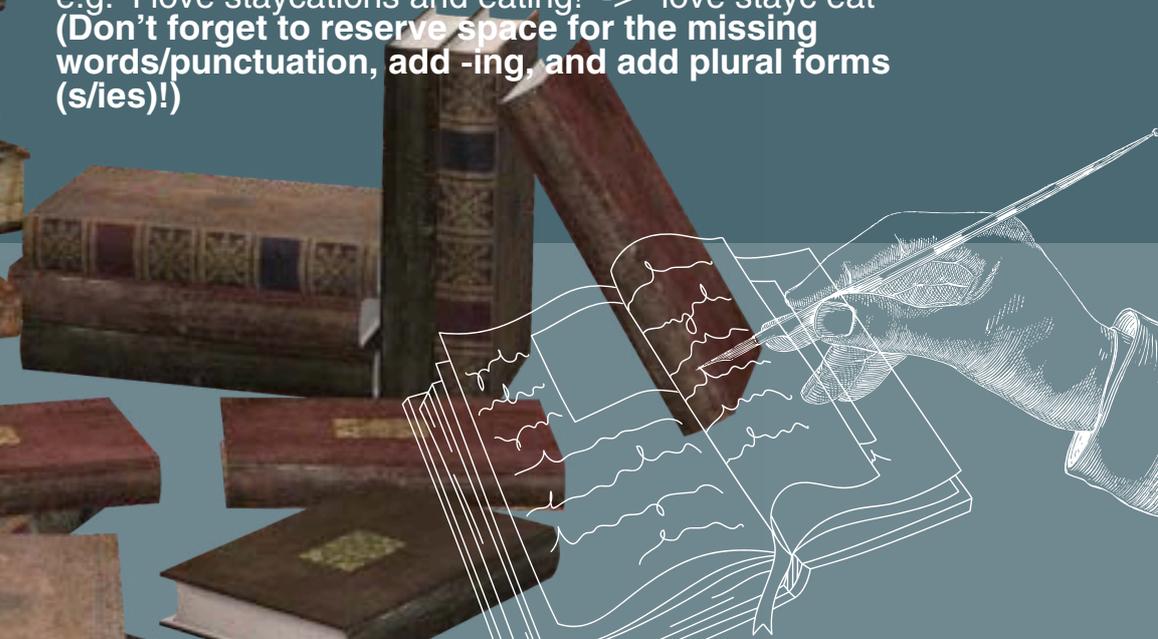
Once experienced enough, your eyes will dance and zigzag across the text, parsing whole paragraphs in one go (like me).

LISTENING:

Write down the first letter(s) of every word in the answer, not the full word(s).

No, not even shortforms like 'ur' and 'tmr', just the first letter(s); otherwise, clean up'll be a pain. Omit words you're 100% certain you know, and to the extent that recall is possible even after certain amounts of time. Reserve more letters for longer, uncertain words.

e.g. 'I love staycations and eating!' -> ' love stayc eat'
(Don't forget to reserve space for the missing words/punctuation, add -ing, and add plural forms (s/ies)!)



TEST SYSTEM

5C Mandy To Ka Man

(Crucial requirement for this is writing fast.)

Obviously, the answer is unfinished and grammatically incorrect; aware, the brain will remind you when cleaning up answers.

Top listening mishap is missing the answer itself. Yes, speakers often repeat, but not always. Part 4 is where they *sadistically* bust out long sentences, crumpling your fingertips. Luckily, the short period after an answer giveaway will always be useless elaboration and chatter. During this 'ooh'-ing and 'ah'-ing, harness your short term memory, and **fill in the missing letters - current question or otherwise.**

When you hear foreshadowing for the next answer, stop filling in. Switch to answer-listening mode.

SPEAKING:

Use short forms. Writing every single point in complete sentences is impossible.

Use point form, too, like

- this
 - sub points -> write w/ short form
 - handwriting tidiness X matter (as long as u know wut the word is)
- rest of tips also given out like this (no short form tho lol)
 - If you don't have a lot to say for your point, **regurgitate what the other person said, and add your own point.** Or **list 3 or more examples.**

• **Maintain eye contact.** No need to look directly into eyes, just nose bridge is okay.



That's not even half of it, but for the sake of article length, that's all.

Last but not least, one final tip for every single test; it all falls apart if you don't follow it, and that is...

GOINGTOSLEEP

Seriously, I'm not joking; there is actual science to back this up. Sleeping not only makes you more awake, it also *consolidates* memory, makes you less irritated, and *assuages* your horrific intrusive thoughts.

Now stop wearing insomnia like some badge of honour.

1. substance (n): 根據
2. encapsulate (v): 概括
3. recall (v): 回憶起

4. foreshadowing (n): 預示
5. consolidate (v): 鞏固
6. assuage (v): 緩和



Fun & Games

A duck was given \$9,
a spider was given \$36,
a bee was given \$27.

Based on
this information,
how much
money would
be given to
a cat?



Answer: \$18 - \$4.50 for each leg

Spot the 8 differences





K-POP DEMON HUNTERS

Word search



sodapop
rumi
huntrix
zoey

ramen
mira
golden
saja boys

jinu
idol
couch
baby

honmoon
abby
demon
mystery

derpy
sussie
romance
kpop

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