

# Fiction

## Group 1

### A Triangle of Trust

*Kowloon Tong School (Primary Section), Chow, Sze Chai Jonathan – 10*

The Atlantic sky was pink. Sunrise crawled over the horizon. A little seaplane purred like a cat. Inside was Robert Walters, archaeologist. He flew towards Bermuda. But his real target was its Triangle.

Robert saw a little island that wasn't on his map. He had to land. He shimmied down to the crystal-clear water. Robert climbed onto the float of the seaplane, hopped onto a rock, and walked onto the soft beach.

All around him were palm trees and coconut trees.

Behind him, a rustle. Robert spun around as quick as lightning and grabbed his M4 carbine, its M203 grenade launcher attached. Silence, then—

A face. Peering out of the murky forest, flinching as Rob turned his gun's flashlight on. A Chinese, but... different. His clothes were ragged and stained with blood. His hair was messy and muddy. Tanned. And a pungent smell of wild game and berries.

But what really surprised Rob was that the man looked at his gun – not with fear, but with curiosity, like it was a metal tube. Then the man asked, “What is that?” Speaking in Chinese—but not the Mandarin Rob learnt in college. Old, warped Chinese.

Soon they stood in a jungle clearing, and Rob saw a feathery, viny log cabin, watching a campfire.

“How long you been here?”

“Fifty decades or more.”

This guy must be deranged, Robert thought. Or I'm about to win a Nobel Prize.

As if reading Rob's thoughts, the man said, “There's one magical thing here.”

They padded into a stone courtyard. At its center was a rotting junk.

But a junk with pipes. A steam engine bulging in its belly. Tiled roofs.

Giant wooden wings.

Isn't it Zheng He's fleet? Carrying thousands of seamen with all state-of-the-art navigation technology? Wasn't it the first reach Americas? Even before Columbus? Rob was greedy—for everyone to know, of course.

But first he needed an artifact— enough for me to carry it to the seaplane.

Rob carefully snapped off a piece. He tucked his prize—a roughly triangular, coral-like piece of boat, suitable for carbon dating—under a baggy shirt-sleeve.

His heart pounding, he marched towards the shadowy edges of the clearing. Then suddenly a figure rose out from the bushes. “Going somewhere?”

The Chinese!

Rob quickly turned around and said, “Nowhere.”

But his brown, leathery face advanced, unblinking. “You're right. We live here now.” He lifted Rob's carbine.

But before the old new face could shoot, Rob threw his prize at it. And, unfamiliar with his own prize, the Chinese pulled a trigger as he fell.

The rifle roared, and facing upwards, tore up his jaw.

He'd pulled the second trigger. The grenade launcher's. His ancient body exploded, scattering fragments of his linen shirt. Rob twisted and jumped away, blasted by hot metal shards.

And now, looking back, he saw his legs were black, bleeding and numb. Unmoving. Sweating, Rob twisted his head. The artifact laid behind. The plane laid ahead. ... crawl? Which way?

## Grandpa's Antique Chest

*St. Joseph's Primary School, Mak, Jayden Nathan – 8*

It was Grandpa's funeral.

James Cai was holding an antique chest, which was a gift from Grandpa. Grandpa once told James, "This is our family treasure, my dear. Do not open it until you're twelve years old." James would only be twelve next month. He could not resist the temptation to find out what the family treasure was. He whispered to himself, "I must take a peep at the chest after Grandpa's funeral."

The next day, James opened the chest. He peeped inside and was disappointed. There was only a piece of rotten paper. "Liar! No treasure, just trash." James started to cry until he was exhausted and fell asleep. With tears on his face, and of course, the paper in his hand.

In his dream, James was in ancient China. He saw a young man walking towards him, with a pile of bamboo slips. Suddenly, the young man fell down because the bamboos slips were too heavy.

"Are you okay?" asked James while he was helping the young man.

The young man replied, "I'm okay. Thanks, buddy!"

"Where're you going with such a big pile of bamboo slips? Are you a carpenter or panda caretaker?"

"Of course not! I'm going to school," the young man answered.

James asked, "Why don't you write on paper instead of such heavy materials?"

James forgot that he was in ancient China where paper did not exist. The young man was puzzled and asked, "What's paper? I've never heard about it!"

Until then James realised that he was in ancient China.

"Let me tell you what paper is. Paper is a material that you write on. It's light and easy to carry. Oh right! I got a piece of paper with me. Let me show you," James said.

The young man said, "It's amazing! Can you tell me how to make it?"

"As I learnt about the invention of paper from my primary science book, paper is made with plant fibres, fishing net and old rags. Not only can paper be used to make books, it can also be used as toilet paper, paper bags or even paper money. The importance of paper is more than what you imagined."

"That's wonderful! Unfortunately, I don't know how to make paper," the young man said disappointedly.

"As my Grandpa always said, 'success only comes to those who dare to attempt,'" James said.

"This is the family precept of our Cai's family too," the young man said. "I swear I will make my own paper one day!"

James was surprised and said, "Oh! I'm also from the Cai's family. My name is James."

"Nice to meet you, James. I'm Lun, Cai Lun," said the young man.

"What? You're the one who invented..." Before James finished his words, the sky became too bright that made him closed his eyes.

When James opened his eyes later, he found that he was on his bed, with that piece of rotten paper in his hand.

## New Tales of China's Inventions

*St. Joseph's Primary School, So, Ho Ming Hayden – 8*

One day after school, I went to the nearby public library to search for a book called “Amazing Inventions from China” because I had a presentation in the coming week. “The four great inventions are the compass, paper, gun powder and printing.” As I read, my head became heavier and heavier. The book seemed to be irritated and trembled violently. The ancient Chinese characters in the picture are like black ribbons, spinning around me. I looked at this inky tornado in shock.....

“Clippity clop.....clippity clop.....” the strange voice woke me up from what must have a nightmare. But I found myself in the strangest house, it looked like an antique museum. When I looked outside, the other houses looked like temples, the streets were crowded with horses, and people were wearing robes. I was about to rush out when an old man in a silky blue robe greeted me abruptly. “Master Fu is expecting you.”

“What are you talking about? Are you .....Fu?” I asked.

“No! Mister, I dare not,” he smiled apologetically, and led me down the stairs.

“Who is Fu?” I asked again.

“He invented the compass,” he said.

We got to a lacquered elm wood door with mahogany embossed word “Fu” and a lion’s head knocker, which the old man used to knock three times.

Master Fu opened the door, he had a ridiculously long beard. He didn’t speak; he simply stared at me. The silence was broken when I gathered my courage to ask a question.

“Did you invent the compass?” I asked.

His eyes sparkled like diamonds, “you mean this? This is not called a compass, it’s called a ‘Si nan’, or iron needle, South-pointer.”

“What.....which dynasty are we from?” I asked.

He replied “Han dynasty.”

“The one before the ‘three kingdoms?’” I exclaimed.

“Three kingdoms?” He looked confused.

“Soon China will split into three kingdoms.....”

“Hush! Hush!” he was looking around, as if the walls had ears, “we can’t say that. Now, back to my invention.”

“You’re such a genius,” I looked closer at this ancient Chinese compass, which looked like a wooden board with some Chinese characters written on it and had a magnet on it that looked like a spoon. “You invented something for navigation!”

“For navigation? This is for fortune telling.”

I remembered the ancient people used compasses for fortune telling. He went on to tell me all about his invention. He believed that the center of the compass represented Heaven and the square plate represented Earth.

I never thought that a compass could be so interesting. Master Fu went to his bookshelf to find a book. He took a book which was the same book I borrowed. He turned to the page about Si nan and the words flew into the air, forming a tornado. I returned to my house. It was a shame that my meeting with him was cut short. Luckily, the presentation was a success!

## The New Element

*St. Paul's Co-educational College Primary School, Chen, Sze Ying Sonia – 9*

China was head to head with America in the medical field, trying to find a new species or invent something new to be the most developed country, but there was nothing scientists found... until Xiaomei Zhang found a new element. Her brother had complicated diseases, so the family needed special medicine. Luckily, Xiaomei and her mother took part in the Infinity Antibiotics Challenge. Now, I’ll tell you the story of how China developed so quickly during that time.

Letting out a sigh, Xiaomei looked up at the towering mountains and imagined the ice forming into little eyes glaring at her. She had been wondering about the grand prize that lay before her, the Infinity antibiotics if she found an undiscovered species. But now, looking up at the mountain, she doubted if she had made the right choice. Her ma, Meier, was more enthusiastic; she had a Beijing hospital tattoo on her arm.

“Xiaomei, dear, cheer up! We’ll get a lot of Penadol!” Meier half-sang. “And nose allergy medicine...!”

Xiaomei droned out from her mother’s chant and started climbing. Meier followed Xiaomei up the mountain slowly and steadily, but there were still a few shaky moments when she slipped on the ice. Xiaomei’s eyelashes froze and she shivered. She tried to focus, but there was a snake of unease crawling around her. Her boots sank half a meter deep in the snow. Suddenly, sparks began flying around their bodies. They were vibrant red and shooting glowing particles out of small orbs. Xiaomei’s eyes widened like plates and she gasped.

“Ma!” She yelled. “What’s happening?” Meier beamed with excitement. “You know, I think you’ve discovered a new element!”

Meier was a chemist inspired by Huang Ti and Shen Nung, and had read the Pharmacopoeia. She had also been working on a mysterious, elusive element of the periodic table. Although the new element was not proven to exist, scientists called it Millenniamium.

Xiaomei’s fear mixed with her excitement. She would actually get the Infinity Antibiotics! Hope swelled inside her, but a question popped into her mind.

How was she going to retrieve it?

Meier put on chemistry goggles, gloves, and took a phial out of her pack and smoothed it across her skin. She was used to collecting chemicals, so she did it like eating breakfast. The Millenniamium slid into the bottle and fizzled out.

“Great!” Meier exclaimed. “Let’s bring it back to the lab, and here comes our prize!”

Back in Meier’s lab, Xiaomei poured Millenniamium into a test-tube and called the market. Meier blubbered excitedly when some soap mixed with Millenniamium. The soap absorbed the element and bubbled with a bright golden glow.

“Look! The soap’s healing my bruises! I think it needs some astatine in it! It could have the potential to heal cancer!” Meier exclaimed.

Now Xiaomei has grown up. She has become a biomedical doctor and uses Millenniamium to save cancer-suffering patient’s lives. As China’s representative, Xiaomei led other world doctors to make affordable and effective treatment for cancer.

## The Contest – A Tale of the Three Great Inventions

*St. Paul's Co-educational College Primary School, Sze, Pok Tin – 9*

One day, a box of gunpowder and a compass were bragging to each other. They were arguing about who is the greatest invention of China.

“I am the greatest! I help ships to navigate,” the compass bragged. “Without me, the people in the ship will get lost, they may even die!”

The box of gunpowder shook his head and disagreed. “No, I am greater than you!” he said arrogantly. “In wars, I help our army to blast fires!” Then, he poured some of his powder into his gun, a large fireball blasted out and hit a tall building. “See?” he said. “Who can do this better than me?”

Just then, a small humble piece of paper passed by. “Look at that poor piece of paper! He is light, thin and boring,” they laughed at him. “How can he do anything for this world? Hahaha!”

However, that piece of paper did not feel embarrassed. He calmly walked over to them and grinned. “You two are so wrong. I did a lot for this world, more than you can imagine!” he announced, as he took a pencil out of his pocket and started writing. “People use me to record knowledge. Then, we become books and read by people all over the world. Without me, knowledge cannot be spread!” he said proudly. “People need me to write letters and make greeting cards, sending love to others. People also need me to draw beautiful pictures and print photos on. I help them to record their beautiful memories. Also, I can turn into paper money to help them pay for their necessities. Who else can do so much for this world like me?”

Unfortunately, the box of gunpowder and the compass still refused to admit that paper is a greater invention, so they fought back, “But now we have electronic books, and we don’t need to print photos anymore. We can also use electronic payments instead of paper money. The world does not need you anymore! Hahahaha!!!”

Finally, the piece of paper cleared his throat and asked the compass, “Now look at yourself. Can you help the ships find their way only by yourself?”

“No, but I have my partner, the map!”

“And what is the map made of?”

“Um... paper? Oh! It’s you!”

Then, the piece of paper turned to the box of gunpowder. “Where do you live? What are your packing?”

“A plastic bag and a box.”

“And what is the box made of?”

“Um...um...p...paper? Oh, it’s you again!!!”

The piece of paper’s words left the two arrogant friends speechless. “Fine, you won the contest!” they finally admitted sadly.

“I won! I won! Yay!” shouted the piece of paper happily. In a blink of an eye, he folded himself and became a paper plane, flying high into the sky. The compass and the box of gunpowder were red-faced and learnt a lesson—never look down on others.

## The Magic Green Tree

*St. Stephen's College Preparatory School, Cheung, Yat Lun Aiden – 6*

I live in Beijing, a bustling and hustling city with an infusion of over 3000-year history and modern skyscrapers. My father is a bioengineer working in Zhongguancun Life Science Park, a birthplace of many innovative ideas and companies. Despite of his unconditional love for me, he seldom plays with me – he’s been way too busy with his research and experiments.

One evening, he came home earlier than usual, brimming with a glow of joy and excitement, and brought with him a tree, like an emerald canopy.

“Aiden, come on, let me introduce Daphne!”

“Daphne? It doesn’t look like a Laurel Tree.”

“Right, it’s not the one in Greek mythology, but it is magical! It is genetically modified Ginkgo Biloba tree, native to China and famous for its resilience.”

My father, fervently adoring Chinese history and culture and its illustrious past, always teaches me the golden memories of China’s great inventions. He himself has been embracing a burning desire to contribute to the world in a way that would mirror the glory of his ancestors.

He is also constantly reminiscent of his good old days with clear skies and clean air. He usually frowns at the worsening situation of air pollution and the choking grey haze. He always tells me that we can’t just stand by and watch the city suffocate, but should invent and make a change, just as the great ancestors in Chinese history.

“Aiden, can you spot the magic of the tree?” my father’s question dragged me out of the thoughts and memories.

“Hmm, I don’t know, but the leaves are so radiantly green, sparkling like precious jade stones, such a sharp contrast to the grey and smoky air”.

“The real magic lies in its power of absorbing and breaking down pollutants in the air with the engineered nanostructures and enhanced photosynthesis!” thrilled my father, “it purifies the air at an extraordinary rate, and needs no electric energy or filter, which makes it a sustainable solution and far superior to ordinary air-purifiers as it saves the energy and protects the environment.”

Gazing at Daphne’s shimmering leaves, I know that his days and nights of hard work has finally paid off – the birth of Daphne is a testament to the indomitable spirit of mankind and a symbol of my father’s unwavering commitment to the city and its people.

I took a deep breath and, for the first time, I felt the freshness and sweetness of the air, and instantly, I knew the future would to be green, just like the leaves of Daphne.

## Serendipity

*St. Stephen's College Preparatory School, Ho, Hin Yeung Austin – 8*

Yan boarded the ship with his father, Song, ready to sail across the vast ocean. Holding a rusty map in his hands, one dotted with sites of treasures along the Silk Route, Yan was excited for their adventure.

It was the 3rd century BC, and Song was a trader who needed to ferry his china to Europe. The plates, cups, bowls and vases were stacked high on the deck, making clanking noises as the ship bobbed over the waves beneath.

After a few hours at sea, thick, smoky clouds appeared. Rain began to pour furiously, and monstrous waves crashed like charging horses onto the ship. The merciless wind took down *everything* in its path.

Chaos, mess and despair ensued. “What are we going to do?” wailed Yan as his map got blown away. Soon enough, they found themselves stranded on a derelict island.

“Let me find some fish for dinner,” said Yan as he tried to be helpful.

They made a warm fire with logs and gathered the last remaining plates and cutlery that stayed intact from the storm. As they pondered what to do next, they felt utterly hopeless.

“DONG” dropped the spoon Yan was holding as he drifted into a cloud of thought. As it fell onto a metal plate, Yan picked up a little stone nearby and weighed the spoon down with it. Suddenly, the spoon began to spin! Intrigued, Yan repeated the step and found that the spoon handle ALWAYS pointed in the same direction.

“Look! I discovered magic!” yelled Yan in utter amazement.

Song ambled over and tried it out for himself. “Son, I think this might just save us! It looks like it’s a navigational tool that could replace our lost map!” said Song as a wave of excitement rippled through his body. “It must mean that the stone has some sort of magnetic quality that aligns with the Earth’s magnetic field. Now, as we set off south from our home, that means... we can figure out our direction back!”

As they eagerly reboarded their ship, Song shared the many ways people had relied on to find directions. “Sailors used familiar landmarks; Polynesians looked at waves and wind; Greeks and Italians developed maps based on memory and experience; and Vikings even studied birds. But son, what you discovered could be revolutionary!”

“But why, father?” questioned Yan.

“That’s because the other methods aren’t very accurate, and if you ever encountered an overcast sky or fog, or if there were no birds around you, let alone a storm, you’d be in trouble!” explained his father.

An hour or so later, they finally arrived back in familiar waters. As they disembarked the ship, they headed straight to a gemologist who explained that the stone was known as lodestone, a rare, naturally occurring magnet.

And just like that, a disaster turned into a discovery as Yan and Song accidentally invented the world’s first compass.

## Flying Chinese Inventions at Tiangong

*St. Stephen's College Preparatory School, Lee, Yee Tak Caitlin – 6*

Once upon a time in New Stone Age of China, Silk came to birth. Silk said happily, “I want to know about Chinese inventions!”

A farmer came out of his house. He said gently, “I am Farmer Keung. I can help you, little Silk.”

“Thank you, Farmer Keung,” replied Silk.

In the blink of an eye, they went to the future. First, they arrived at the Shang Dynasty where they met Porcelain.

Porcelain said, “Nice to meet you guys. My name is Porcelain. What’s your name?”

“My name is Silk and he is Farmer Keung,” said Silk excitedly. “Where did you come from?”

“I came from China,” said Porcelain. “I’m made from clay. What are you made from?”

“I’m natural fiber made from silkworm cocoon and I’m used to make clothes and carpets, also used for painting and printing,” said Silk. “What are you used for?”

“I’m used to make cups, bowls and plates, also used to make sculptures and vases with beautiful patterns,” explained Porcelain with a smile.

Silk said, “Can I put some flowers in the porcelain vase?” Porcelain said, “Yes, sure.”

Silk said excitedly “Follow us to find out more about Chinese inventions!”

They decided to travel to Lu State in the Warring States Period where they met Kite.

Kite said, “Hi, nice to meet you. I’m Kite. What’s your name?”

“I’m Porcelain and they’re Silk and Farmer Keung,” said Porcelain. “What’s your job?”

“People made use of me to signal military troops to send a message. I can also be used to entertain adults and children,” said Kite.

“You are wonderful! Follow us!” said Porcelain.

“Thank you for allowing me to join you,” said Kite.

They arrived at the Han Dynasty where they met Paper.

“My name is Paper, made by rags and other plant fibers,” said Paper.

Kite said, “Come and join our adventure, Paper.”

Paper followed them.

They went to the Tang Dynasty. “Tang is such a prosperous dynasty,” exclaimed Porcelain.

They went to drink at a teahouse and saw some people reading poetry books. All of the words were printed with the woodblock printing.

Next, they arrived at the Song Dynasty. Farmer Keung disappeared suddenly. Luckily they met Compass who was used for navigation. So, Compass led the others to find Farmer Keung with his magical power.

After flying for one day, they found Farmer Keung at Tiangong Station!

Farmer announced, “Well done, kids! You have successfully discovered the Chinese inventions and found out my exact location. As a reward, I’ll turn you all into little magical fairies! I also want you to tour Tiangong with me.”

“This Tiangong Space Station was constructed by the Chinese in 2021. It is a base for space experiments and future inventions,” introduced Farmer Keung.

They were so surprised that they had travelled through 5,000 years! All were so happy for learning so much about Chinese inventions over the period. They decided to stay at Tiangong and looked forward to more new Chinese inventions in future.

## My Unforgettable Trip to Beijing

*Victoria Shanghai Academy, Tam, Avery – 8*

“This is the most boring place in the world!” I mumbled to myself as I strolled around in the Museum of Chinese History of Beijing. All I saw were displays of Chinese calligraphy, paintings, jades and ceramics. I tried to urge my Dad to walk faster but he was too busy explaining the complicated history to my curious brother.

My Mom noticed that I was impatient. So, she suggested a game to me, “Avery, find something interesting in this museum and tell me the story behind it. I will give you a present at the Universal Studio as a reward!”

All of a sudden, I felt energetic and hurried across the room as if I was playing a treasure hunt. Then, a humongous bronze barrel decorated with eight dragons facing down in eight directions caught my attention. The dragons’ mouths were wide-opened each with a small bronze ball in it. Right beneath the dragons, there were mouth wide-opened bronze toads facing upward at the dragons. Next to the barrel, the description said, “Earthquake detector invented by Zang Heng of the Han dynasty.”

Suddenly, there was a mysterious ray of light seeping out from behind a secret black curtain next to the earthquake detector. In curiosity, I wandered inside and in a blink of an eye, I was in a room that looked like the imperial court of the ancient Han dynasty! In front of me was Zhang Heng working concentratedly on what looked like the earthquake detector.

Next to Zhang Heng, a man wearing a Chinese Han costume stared sternly at me and snapped, “Shhhh! Be quiet! Don’t disturb my master. He is creating his latest invention.”

Then, I heard another man who dressed like a Chinese imperial official criticised, “This machine is not going to work. We all know that earthquakes happen because God wants to punish us for doing something wrong.”

“There are earthquakes because the tectonic plates of the Earth slide past each other creating friction and releasing energy in waves which makes the land vibrate!” I spoke proudly.

As I wished to explain more, the ground started to grumble and shake violently. Everybody in the room was terrified and running away. I immediately zoomed out of the room and to my surprise, I was back to the museum again. While my heart was still pounding, I ran to my mom and exclaimed, “Mom, I just went back in time!”

My mom chuckled, “Silly girl, that is China’s latest technology. A virtual reality room without using VR goggles! You just have too much imagination!”

I turned my head back and spotted the sign next to the black curtains: latest virtual reality experience – visiting Zhang Heng of the Han dynasty. My face turned red with embarrassment. After all, the museum tour was one of the most memorable visits of my trip.

# Creative Writing Fiction

## Group 1

## Chinese Medicine Philosophy

*Kowloon Rhenish School, Cheang, Wan Ki Angelina – 8*

Ming was in a lecture theatre talking to his pharmaceutical students, “I failed many times. I couldn’t think of any solution, but an idea from Chinese medicine helped me.”

“Your brother has lung cancer. Unfortunately, as you know, we have no medicine to cure him.” The doctor said sympathetically.

With no other options, Ming decided to invent a new medicine. Ming was trying to use different ingredients to formulate it, but he couldn’t find a combination that could work.

Ming tried lots of times, but he kept on failing. He had run out of ideas, just when he received a message from his brother, “Dear Ming, I know you haven’t successfully invented the medicine yet. I don’t want to give you pressure but I am so terrified. I think I am getting weaker every day. Maybe I can’t wait for your medicine much longer. I am sorry that I am so pessimistic.”

When Ming finished reading it, his eyes were full of tears. He was worried and anxious. He didn’t want to talk to anyone. He couldn’t stop crying. He rubbed his nose and sniffled loudly.

Just then, Ming’s friend came looking for him. He comforted him gently and gave him a book about Chinese Medicine.

“My dad is a Chinese medicine practitioner. This is one of the good books that I found on his shelves. There are many more at home. If you need them, I can lend them to you. I am sure you will succeed!”

Ming found the book very useful. It suggested that we could train our bodies to fight against diseases, instead of relying on Western medicines alone.

He brainstormed, “How can I make the body stronger? How can I make it strong enough to kill the cancer cells? What ingredients should I include to make it?”

Ming felt encouraged by the new idea. He thought to himself, “I need to keep going. My brother is waiting for me to help me. I am his only hope.”

After another round of attempts, Ming believed he had succeeded. Why? Because without the medicine, the white blood cells couldn’t kill the cancer cells. But with the medicine, the cancer cells could be destroyed.

Ming jumped up and down with excitement. He laughed, “I have done it! I need to submit the new medicine to The National Medical Products Administration (NMPA) as soon as possible. I hope they will approve it!”

Fortunately, he received the approval very soon. The doctor decided that his brother could try to use the new medicine.

Ming was excited but nervous. While he was waiting for the news about his brother, he kept walking back and forth along the hospital corridor. What if it made him worse? What if he died?

When the doctor came out, he was smiling and he said, “Your brother is alright now. He can go home a few days later if his condition is stable. Congratulations! Thank you for your medicine. It will bring hope to many patients.”

# The Big Leap of China's Invention in Traffic Automation

Po Leung Kuk Choi Kai Yau School, Wong, Yik Hong – 8

“Adam, hurry up please! We may miss the car to the airport and even miss the flight!” mum howled.

“That’s fine, mum. It is all under our control!” Adam replied calmly.

The airport chauffeur arrived on time at 10 in the morning. Adam and parents finally got in the car at 10:20. Although they were being late, “the driver” did not make any complaint!

“Dad, just buckle up. No one is actually controlling the car!” Adam chuckled.

This is the latest Didi-Auto. It is the first time Adam tried this service. With the booming technology of chips which allows speedy computation, satellites which provide precise location and electric vehicles with superb batteries in China, the computerised car without a driver is made possible. China has made tremendous progress in its semiconductor, space, automotive and rechargeable batteries.

“Dad, China is not only famous for its high-tech invention, but also for its creativity in inventing a service with few matured technologies. The Didi-Auto is a great example,” Adam said.

“The Artificial Intelligent training and thousands of hours of road traffic data, plus the huge coverage of the BeiDou satellites allow for the most accurate performance of the Didi-Auto. The cameras and sensors on the car together with the super computation can avoid any kind of collision on the road,” Adam replied.

Adam and his family arrived at the airport. They scurried through the check-in service and were going to take the Didi-Air! The success of making its own civil aircraft has enabled some extent of pilotless flight.

There was no cockpit and aircrews on the plane. Adam’s parents saw some robotic arms helping to lift the small luggage. Meal serving became a self-help service in the in-cabin café. The voice recognition devices plus the robotic arms made the in-flight services become no different from that by human beings.

“Why is everything automated? That sounds scary! I cannot imagine a pilotless flight!” Dad looked anxious.

“The aircraft still needs a safety pilot who can disconnect the system to revert the aircraft to manual flying in some unpredictable situations,” Adam said, “Decades of industrial advancement in China has made the integration of robots into the flight easier. Small jets are operated from the ground with the back-up pilot like our case here. There are already fully pilotless cargo plane services.”

“That’s absolutely amazing! I could never imagine that China had taken such a big step in changing the world when I was at your age, Adam!” Dad chuckled.

Since the ancient invention of papermaking, compass, gunpowder and printing, China has been holding a leading position in its innovation and world civilization. Chinese are renowned for their quick-witted mindset and they are highly entrepreneurial. With the advancement of science and technology today, Chinese do not only invent sophisticated products in rechargeable batteries, semiconductors and automobiles, but also overlay with application services on top which truly discharge the benefits to all human beings.

# Our Cybernetic Future

SKH Lui Ming Choi Memorial Primary School, Szeto, Fai Justin – 11

I saw an accident today. When people get into accidents in the future, they will die. No surprise there. However, I’ve found a solution to this problem – introduce cybernetic parts. When your heart is failing, use a robotic one!

The cybernetic parts can help us in a variety of ways in our everyday life. It can even save our lives.

First, it can save you from an accident. So, you’ve gotten into an accident and the doctors are trying to save you. You are on the staircase to heaven but with the invention of cybernetics you can replace failing organs with robot parts.

The second use for cybernetics is it can make us have super human powers. If you use cybernetic parts in your legs or arms, they won’t get tired. Super strength is possible and your health will be better than ever. No need to wear out your original body parts. You just need to remember to recharge it every year or else you will die! And nobody wants that! People with poor health and those that don’t eat well can use cybernetic body parts to support their body systems.

Finally, in 2023, where I am originally from, everyone has a pet dog or cat. Everyone feels sad when their pet dies, but here in the future things are different. Lucky for you, we have got robot parts for pets too. Your pets will live forever thanks to cybernetics.

I think people will use cybernetics more and more in the future and it will help you in many different ways.