



Am I Too Good,

or Are They Too Bad?

Text Type: Diary entry
Suggested finishing time: 25 mins

Each idiomatic expression bears a figurative meaning that is different from its literal meaning. The idiom 'in the blink of an eye' means 'very quickly'.

Let's Think!



1. Have you ever violated any school rules? Why?
2. If you could set a new school rule, what would it be?

More to Take Away

In Japan, most public school students have the same meals, carry the same schoolbags and wear the same shoes. Besides, they share among themselves the responsibility for taking care of their own classrooms. It is believed that such conformity makes students think of themselves as being part of their schools.

Moral



Every school, family, society or country has its own rules. They ensure the fulfillment of duties and the protection of rights. We should respect these rules and think about the reasons behind them.

17th November (Monday)

 Sunny

In the blink of an eye, it has been two months since I was promoted to secondary school. School life has been great but I felt a bit upset today. Some of my schoolmates did not behave well and were punished by the teachers.

Before the first lesson, all of us settled down in our classroom. While I was getting my textbook ready, Diana Ho was scribbling on her desk with a marker. At the same time, Lara Choi was copying from someone else's homework. They both didn't notice when Mr Wong came in. Then, they were sent to the detention class for two days for being unruly and dishonest.

At recess, I was chatting as usual with my friends in the playground when I heard someone scream. I knew right away that something wrong was happening nearby. When I walked closer, I found that Roy Lee and Eddy Yip from Class 1D were fighting over a packet of chips! They were like two big cats battling fiercely for their prey! Luckily, Mr Hung passed by while they were fighting. He immediately stopped them and informed the discipline head as well as their parents of the matter. Both of them were given a demerit for their misbehaviour.



During lunchtime, I felt so full and satisfied after enjoying my favourite pasta. But then, just when I was about to leave the canteen, I saw someone walking away from his seat, leaving the leftover food and used tissues all over the table. It was Sammi Chan from my class. I politely asked him to keep the table clean, but he

rudely refused to do so. While we were arguing, a prefect came and said that she had seen everything. Then, she marked down Sammi's name and asked him to clean up the mess. He was also told to clean up the canteen after school.



After the choir practice, while I was walking out of the hall, a senior boy who ran faster than a leopard knocked me down. Things happened too fast: I fell down, broke my glasses, and the boy dashed away so hurriedly that

I couldn't even see his face, let alone hear what he might have said. I was so steamed up, not simply because he had made me fall, but also because of his being so reckless and inconsiderate!

Some of my classmates complain that the school rules are too strict. However, there is a reason behind each of them. Rules lead us to become considerate so that we can enjoy our school life without disturbing one another. I hope everyone is aware that rules play a key role not only in teaching us that our actions have consequences, but also in maintaining a safe, conducive learning climate at school!

~460 words

From the diary entry, we can infer that Mr Wong _____.

► Find evidence for each inference.

- A. asked Sammi Chan to clean up the canteen after school (it should be the prefect who punished Sammi ► ✗)
- B. is the discipline head (the discipline head is mentioned in paragraph 3 ► ✗)
- C. taught Lara to do her homework in detention class (no relevant information is given ► ✗)
- D. works in the same school as Mr Hung (Mr Hung stopped the students' fight at recess ► ✓)

Looking into Grammar

The past continuous tense is used to describe ongoing actions in the past. However, it is not used for non-action verbs (*know, want, belong, need, notice, realise, understand*).

✓ He **understood** (✗ was understanding) the instructions in the 30-page manual.

🔍 Circle TWO examples of the past continuous tense that you can find in paragraph 2.


Part A Multiple Choice Questions

Answer the following questions based on the information provided in the diary entry. Choose the best answer by blackening the appropriate circle.


1. In line 20, the word ‘fiercely’ can best be replaced by ‘_____’.

- A. mildly
- B. violently
- C. attentively
- D. noisily

1 Eliminate the antonym first.

 2. Regarding the above question, the writer used _____ to describe what he saw.

- A. simile
- B. alliteration
- C. repetition
- D. personification

 3. From paragraph 4, we can infer that the writer _____.

- A. had lunch in the canteen
- B. cleaned the table for Sammi
- C. has been a prefect for long
- D. was the prefect’s friend

3 Read the passage for the keywords in each option.

4. Read line 32. The word ‘everything’ refers to _____.

- A. the rude comments made by Sammi
- B. Sammi’s lunch box and used tissues
- C. the writer’s friendly reminders
- D. what had happened between the writer and Sammi

5. Who is NOT the writer’s classmate?

- A. Diana Ho
- B. Sammi Chan
- C. Lara Choi
- D. Eddy Yip

6. According to the writer, why should the school rules be followed?

- A. They teach students to be considerate.
- B. They ensure students would not disturb one another.
- C. They help maintain a good environment for learning.
- D. all of the above

Self-evaluation Checklist (✓/✗)

1. I understood most of the information provided in the passage.	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. I guessed the meaning of unknown words or phrases correctly.	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. I managed to answer questions by drawing inferences.	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. I identified and understood the writer’s / characters’ feelings.	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. I could identify and summarise the main idea of the passage.	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. The two reading strategies taught in this module enabled me to read more effectively.	<input type="checkbox"/>

Part B Pre-HKDSE Questions

Answer the following questions based on the information provided in the diary entry. For questions 4 and 6, answer in complete sentences.

1. What were the students punished for? Complete the summary below.

Student's name	Misbehaviour
Diana Ho	(i)
Sammi Chan	(ii)
Lara Choi	(iii)

2. Determine whether each of the following statements is a fact, an opinion, or undecided because not enough information is given.

Statement	Fact	Opinion	Not Given
(i) It is unacceptable for students to copy from others' homework.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
(ii) Two boys from Class 1D received a demerit, and their parents were also informed.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
(iii) In total, five boys were punished today in school.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



3. From the last paragraph, we can infer that _____ was most probably what the writer heard from his classmates.

- A. 'I have learnt a lesson.'
- B. 'Such behaviour should never be tolerated.'
- C. 'Every one of us has our own rights and responsibilities.'
- D. 'Why should we follow these rules? They are so harsh!'

3 What is the classmates' attitude towards the rules?

4. To the writer's knowledge, how many students received penalties from teachers?

4 Teachers are not the only ones who can penalise rule breakers.



5. Which of the following literary devices is used in line 37? Mark your answer with a tick (✓) in the appropriate box.

metaphor	<input type="checkbox"/>	repetition	<input type="checkbox"/>	exaggeration	<input type="checkbox"/>
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6. In the writer's opinion, what may be the reason why certain students break school rules?

Part C Vocabulary Bank

Match the words for describing the performance and behaviour of students in the left column with the descriptions in the right column. Write the correct letters in the boxes.

A. inconsiderate

B. unsatisfactory

C. respectful

D. selfless

E. decent

F. selfish

G. rebellious

H. remarkable

1. good enough to leave a positive impression or even receive praises

2. bad enough to leave a negative impression or even receive poor remarks

3. considering or caring about only one's own advantage, welfare or pleasure

4. thinking more about the welfare and needs of others than one's own

5. not thinking enough about others' feelings, rights, wishes or needs

6. showing respect and understanding to how others live, and what they do or think

7. refusing to obey rules and intentionally not behaving in the way that others expect

8. socially acceptable or good

Let's Discuss!



1. Think of a school rule which you would like to demolish and explain the reason behind your decision.
2. Do you think that we can have only one set of rules for all the people in a community?

Word Craft



Not so fast (Refer to P.15.)

This spoken phrase is used when you are telling someone to wait and not to be too quick to do something or not to be too judgmental about something.

Part D Cloze Passage

Complete the text messages below with the appropriate adjectives introduced on the previous page.

Sophia

Hi all, I've just reached home. I can't wait to share something shocking with you guys. 🤔

Jack

What's happened? You are always the one with the most (1) _____ patience among us. 😞

Jane

Is it about the newcomer? I know it's his first day of school. But how bad could it possibly be? You're such a (2) _____ person that I'm sure you must have done everything to help him settle into the class. What has troubled you? 😞

Sophia

Sigh 😞. Everything had been as usual and fine at first. But things went wrong after the newcomer took his seat at the far back of the classroom. As soon as he realised he had not brought any materials needed for the lesson, he took a book from the girl on his left and a pen from his right without asking. I was shocked to find out that he is such a (3) _____ person. He did not care what the others thought and felt. 😞

Jack

OMG. I myself, being a real knight, so decent and humble 😊, always try to be (4) _____ to everyone. I find myself (5) _____ when I unintentionally hurt someone's feeling. Doing it on purpose? NEVER, EVER acceptable! 😡

Jane

Not so fast. He appeared to be (6) _____ in your eyes, but he was actually sitting far away from you. He might have asked beforehand without your notice. 🤔 Perhaps it's only one side of the story?

Sophia

Not really 😊. The teacher also witnessed the incident, and scolded him right in front of the class, telling him that it had been rude and not (7) _____ of him to take people's things without asking. He also warned him that he would be punished if he goes on like this, as he doesn't want to have a (8) _____ student in his class. 😊