

优秀的年轻人

很多年轻人的梦想都是一致的：成为优秀的人。然而，他们觉得因为年龄还小，他们没办法把这些梦想去实现。今天，我想给这些没自信的年轻人分享一个小故事。故事里面的孩子都是跟他们同岁同样的，唯一的区别就是他们发现了年轻人也有机会改善我们的世界，成为优秀的人。

科学天才

Matthew Zhou 是一位美国华裔少年。他专长在数学和科学部分。小学五年级就读了高中，并现在已经自学完成大学化学课程。在二零一五年他赢得了美国科学中心的一场比赛。新闻报道说，他是有史以来最年轻的比赛得主。二零一六年四月，他参加了白宫科学展，并赢得了一万美元的奖学金。他还有机会见到了美国前总统。十二岁的他在大学课堂旁听。十五岁时，他成为了实验室的研究员，并且出版过三篇研究论文。Matthew Zhou 应该在二零二零年高中毕业。他之前曾经表示过自己的理想学校是哈佛大学和麻省理工学院。不知道他会去哪所大学继续他的科学研究。

音乐神童

第二个优秀的年轻人是一位音乐家。Christian Li 是 Menuhin 比赛史以来最年轻的赢者，那个时候，他只有十岁。Menuhin 比赛是世界上最重望的小提琴比赛。由于他作为小提琴手的惊人技巧，已经被唱片公司签下名，并去年发行了他自己当代版的中国民歌。他在 Menuhin 比赛弹小提琴的视频已经在网上分享了超过一百万次。Li 五岁的时候开始弹小提琴。他在一周中每天都练习四个小时，在周末练习更多时间。否则，他会喜欢阅读和观看电影，尤其是科幻电影，还有哈利·波特：他去年在伦敦被 Decca 首次访问时，记者据报道他对在国王十字车站的哈利·波特商店感到“异常兴奋”。但是，在接下来的呼吸中，他正在谈论他有多喜欢柴可夫斯基小提琴协奏曲，以及音乐的复杂方面……从那么年轻的人听到这类事情真是非常了不起。不但他正常的兴趣，据说他可能成为有史以来最有才华的音乐家之一。

十一岁的艺术家

Xeo Chu 是个 11 岁的越南男孩，已经以超过 15 万美元的价格出售他的画作。他四岁开始画画，并参加新加坡和越南的艺术展后被国际艺术界发现。现在，他在纽约举行了第一次艺术展，他的五光十色的图画吸引了许多买家。他是一个令人钦佩的人，因为他不仅在艺术方面是个人才，而且他对社会的贡献。他出售画作的大部分钱捐给了一家慈善机构，以帮助越南的穷儿童上学。

Word List:

国王十字车站 - King's Cross Station

柴可夫斯基 - Tchaikovsky

协奏曲 - Concerto

Questions

Re-read lines 1-4:

Marks

1. Why do young people believe that they can't become exceptional people?

2

Re-read lines 5-12:

2. This paragraph discusses Matthew Zhou, a child science prodigy.

a) What two things has Matthew Zhou done at his young age?

2

b) What did Matthew do in 2015, and why was it such an achievement?

3

c) What was his prize for winning the White House competition?
State two things.

2

d) What did Matthew do when he was 15?

2

Re-read lines 13-23:

3. Here we learn about the Australian-Chinese music prodigy Christian Li.
- a) According to the article, because of his astonishing talent at violin, what **three** achievements have Li received? (lines 13-16) 3
 - b) What is Li's practice routine for the violin? Give 2 details. 2
 - c) The Decca journalist was surprised by Li. Why was this? 4
 - d) What do some people say about Christian Li's future? 1

Re-read lines 24-28:

4. Finally, the article introduces Xeo Chu.
- a) At 11 years old, what has Xeo Chu been able to do? 1
 - b) What happened to Xeo Chu in Singapore and Vietnam? 1
 - c) The article states that Xeo Chu should be admired. Why is this? 4

Now consider the article as a whole:

- 5. What is the writer's overall purpose in writing about this subject? Justify your response with close reference to the points made and the language used. 7
- 6. Translate the underlined section into English: (lines 18-23) 20

Total marks: [54]

Marking Scheme can be found on the next page:

Marking Scheme

Q No.	Expected response		Max Mark
1	Because they are still young (1) they have no way to/cannot make their dreams reality/make their dreams happen (1)		2
2	a	1. He graduated high school (when he was in the 5 th grade of elementary/primary school) 2. He has already taught himself/self-studied a university chemistry course .	2
	b	1. He won a competition at the American Science Centre (1) 2. He was the youngest winner (1) ever/in history (1)	3
	c	1. He received a USD\$10,000 scholarship 2. He met the former president (of America)	2
	d	1. He became a researcher (in a science lab) 2. He published 3 research papers	2
3	a	Any three of: 1. (youngest ever) winner of the Menuhin competition (the most respected violin competition in the world) 2. He has been signed by a music company/label 3. He has released his own (contemporary version of a Chinese folk) song/music 4. The video of him playing in the Menuhin competition has been shared online over 1 million times.	3
	b	1. He practises 4 hours a day during the week 2. He practices even more on weekends .	2
	c	1. He was very excited about the King's Cross Harry Potter store. 2. But in the next breath he would talk about Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto 3. And other complicated aspects of music 4. Surprising/amazing for such a young person to talk about that type of thing/music etc.	4
	d	He might become one of the best musicians ever	1
4	a	Sold his paintings/artwork for over USD\$150,000.	
	b	He was discovered by the art world	

	c	<div>1. (Not only for) his art(istic) talent</div> <div>2. For his contributions to society</div> <div>3. The majority of the money from selling his paintings is donated to a charity</div> <div>4. Which helps poor children in Vietnam go to school</div>	4								
5		<div>1. The writer wanted to encourage young people to make their dreams a reality when they were still young and tell them they didn't have to wait until they were older.</div> <div>2. They used subheadings to lead the reader through the article and improve the structure of the piece.</div> <div>3. Used real life examples to encourage young people they could do the same. Real life examples make the article more inspiring/interesting to young people as they can see success is possible.</div> <div>4. Real life examples add credibility to the piece and supports the argument.</div> <div>5. Quotations are used to link the article to the real world.</div> <div>6. Uses a positive tone by saying the readers and the child prodigies written about are very similar – encourages the readers that they can be exceptional too eg. 故事里面的孩子都是跟他们同岁同样的，唯一的区别就是他们发现了年轻人也有机会改善我们的世界，成为优秀的人。</div>	<div>7</div> <table><tr><th>Pegged Marks</th><th>Criteria</th></tr><tr><td>7 OR 5</td><td>The candidate provides a clear, concise and reflective answer, drawing inferences which are entirely appropriate, analytical and which demonstrate a sophisticated and accurate reading of the text. The answer clearly relates to the advice given in the Expected response column, or any other equally appropriate response.</td></tr><tr><td>3 OR 1</td><td>The candidate provides an answer which may contain some degree of misreading, but which offers evidence of appropriate inferencing skills. The candidate may, however, tend to supply information from the text with little attempt to draw inferences.</td></tr><tr><td>0</td><td>The candidate's answer simply provides information to be found in the text with no attempt to draw inferences.</td></tr></table>	Pegged Marks	Criteria	7 OR 5	The candidate provides a clear, concise and reflective answer, drawing inferences which are entirely appropriate, analytical and which demonstrate a sophisticated and accurate reading of the text. The answer clearly relates to the advice given in the Expected response column, or any other equally appropriate response.	3 OR 1	The candidate provides an answer which may contain some degree of misreading, but which offers evidence of appropriate inferencing skills. The candidate may, however, tend to supply information from the text with little attempt to draw inferences.	0	The candidate's answer simply provides information to be found in the text with no attempt to draw inferences.
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6	<p>否则，他会喜欢阅读和观看电影，尤其是科幻电影，还有哈利·波特：他去年在伦敦被 Decca 首次访问时，记者据报道他对在国王十字车站的哈利·波特商店感到“异常兴奋”。但是，在接下来的呼吸中，他正在谈论他有多喜欢柴可夫斯基小提琴协奏曲，以及音乐的复杂方面……从那么年轻的人听到这类事情真是非常了不起。不但他正常的兴趣，据说他可能成为有史以来最有才华的音乐家之一。</p> <p>Otherwise/apart from that, he likes to read and watch movies,</p> <p>especially science fiction movies, and Harry Potter:</p> <p>last year when he was interviewed by Decca for the first time</p> <p>the journalist reported he was “extremely excited” about the Harry Potter store at King’s Cross Station.</p> <p>But, in the next breath,</p> <p>he was talking about how much he liked Tchaikovsky's violin concerto,</p> <p>and the complex aspects of music...</p> <p>It was really amazing to hear such things from such a young person.</p> <p>Despite having normal interests, it is said that he may become one of the most talented musicians ever/in history.</p>	<p>20</p> <p>The translation into English is allocated 20 marks. The text for translation will be divided into a number of sense units. Each sense unit is worth 2 marks, which will be awarded according to the quality and accuracy of the translation into English. In assessing the candidate’s performance, the descriptions detailed below will be used. Each sense unit will be awarded one of the marks shown.</p> <p>2 – Good: Essential information and relevant details are understood and conveyed clearly and accurately, with appropriate use of English.</p> <p>1 – Satisfactory: Essential information is understood and conveyed clearly and comprehensibly, although some of the details may be translated in an imprecise or inaccurate manner. The key message is conveyed in spite of inaccuracies and weaknesses in the use of English.</p> <p>0 – Unsatisfactory: The candidate fails to demonstrate sufficient understanding of the essential information.</p>
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Advanced Higher Mandarin Reading Exercise 1 - 优秀的年轻人

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