

夜校學生家庭狀況紀實

我今年十二歲。我家共有五人。

爸爸做洋行雜工，每月薪金一百五十元，家用當然不夠了，媽媽只好到茶樓做散工幫補家用。而我呢？真是全個家都由我當了，小弟弟也得幫我做工作……。

四年級 麥玉琼

我生長在一個貧苦的家庭裡，自小就要做家庭工作和負起料理弟妹的責任。媽媽爲了維持家計，每天都去西環的塑膠花廠做工。爸爸很好，是當散工的，不知什麼緣故，却常沒有工開。

因爲每天要做家庭工作，所以我只有很少時間去讀書。爸爸常常鼓勵我，叫我用心讀書，努力學習，等他收入好些時，媽媽便不用外出工作，又可以供我讀日校了。

我時刻都牢記爸爸這番話，我能够做一個好學生。 四年級 陳芷芬

我有兩個年幼的妹妹。父母親都已經上了年紀了，都是做手作的，收入還不够維持一家五口起碼的生活。

我們姊妹只好取些珠子回來穿，整整一天最多也只賺得一元二角。有時沒米下鍋，就向隣居借；隣居也是很艱難的，間中只好吃點粥算了。我的學費是母親從家用中勉強節省出來的，以我的家庭狀況來說，雖是區區二元四的學費也着實不易負擔。但父母親都認爲一定要給我讀書，寧願多捱一些苦，吃少點餸。他們說，一個沒有學識的人是沒有前途的，希望我多讀一些書，將來過一個好日子。

本學期，我很僥倖地，申請了一個免費學額，這對於我和我的父母都是很大的鼓勵，同是對校方的同情感到莫大的感激。 三乙 胡笑薇

我是羅富國校友會夜校三年級的

學生，我爸爸已經失業了好幾年，平日祇靠做些小買賣來維持我們的生活，媽媽在家中料理家務。在五姊妹中，我最大，所以爸爸送我和二弟到夜校讀書。

每天，我和二弟三弟一起黏火柴盒，黏一籮賺五毛錢，每天費盡氣力，最多也只能黏兩籮。爸爸失業久了，不得已借高利貸過日子，真是羅得米來沒柴燒，我們真是苦啊。有人向爸媽討錢時，我總是不敢出聲的。

我和二弟都沒法交學費，幸好學校幫助我們獲得助學金，我們真是幸運，我要更努力去讀書了。

我知道有很多貧窮的孩子還沒有讀書，我希望老師們能够多多捐助，使貧窮的孩子不會失學，那就好了。

三甲胡潔玲

自從第四十期「休息室」刊登過一篇「從迎新會談到我們是否需要校友會」的文章，接連收到校友來稿支持校友會，這使我們一方面感動，另一方面亦更認真去探討怎樣使校友會活動和工作更爲校友們所喜愛。

我們大家都是教師，總希望教學工作能達到理想的效果。有機會互相切磋，交流經驗，共同討論教學法，編補充教材，不祇可減輕負擔，亦能收集思廣益之效，學術組舉辦的教學座談會和編印中、英、算，常識補充教材正是希望能適合校友教學上的需要。下次活動爲

「朗誦晚會」。朗

誦在國文教學上佔很重要位置的，各位校友可有興趣共同研究麼？請多提意見。

身爲教師的我們，

固然希望教學成績美滿

，但在忙忙碌碌的教學生涯中又是多麼渴望有些康樂活動如打羽毛球、乒乓球、籃球、跳土風舞，和旅行等等調劑一下，你有到過我們的康樂中心來嗎？哪個週末有空呢？請去北角官校和新舊同學歡敘，玩個痛快吧！

我們羅師的籃球健將，你們是否感到技癢了？

請快組隊參加葛師、羅師校友會合辦的旅行盃

賽吧！現在已報名參加比賽的有十隊了，比賽時間地點定好後將再通知，讓大家都去「捧場」，替健兒們

吶喊助威。

我們校友喜愛藝術的可真不少，原來氣氛恬靜，有詩、舞、歌、劇的文藝晚會是這樣受到校友們歡迎的。以後，我們將經常隔一月左右舉辦同類型的晚會，下次晚會日期定四月廿五日（星期六），請屆時回到母校來，在那裡，可以會見英國最偉大的文豪莎士比亞——漫遊他的故鄉，聆聽他的優美詞句，探索他對人生深刻的描寫，還可以欣賞音樂家們

特爲他的戲劇而作的樂曲……

看見美麗的畫面，動人的情景，真希望能將之保留下來，永爲紀念。攝影組與美術組于

校友會在做些什麼？

活動預告

短期內將舉辦活動，請各適其適。

我們都受過師資訓練，雖然不敢以教育家自居，但總有教育好下一代的抱負的，將我們的理想施于我們的新校吧！「校友會學校公司」已于三月正式註冊成立，

以後建校工作將集中于設計建築校舍、校具和學校行政，怎去爲失學兒童建設一所樂園，正有賴于全體校友，同心合力支持這有意義的工作了。



蠔鄉一日

春回大地，風和日麗；百花競放，嫣紅翠綠，正是郊遊的好時光。

三月三十一日，晨早九時，九龍佐敦道碼頭前結集了無數的郊遊客，老的、少的、男的、女的，三三兩兩，交頭接耳，輕言淺笑，大概都厭倦了都市的塵囂，正準備到郊區去，讓清新的空氣，美妙的風光蕩滌盡心頭的煩塵俗氣。人叢中，出現一群小孩子，他們放下教鞭，離開了空談和理想，回到現實的人生去，要實地考察流浮山的風光，體驗一下蠔鄉的風土人情，生活情況。

甫屆九時三十分，號令一發，一輛巴士載着這一羣回到現實的理想家，風馳電掣；直指元朗出發。由塵囂的城市走到寧靜的郊區，沿途所見，綠水青山，風景明媚，美不勝收。嘻哈談笑與車輪飛馳所發的聲音相應

和，熱鬧愉快不旋踵，那紅色的大車，已完成它的任務到達屏山，鬆了一口氣，吐出十多個小孩子來。

下車後，沿着靠左的小徑向海邊走去，經過了屏山警署及一道鐵橋，前後步行了差不多一小時，便到達流浮山了。擡頭一望，那裏有山？啊！流浮山不是山，正如熊人不是人，木魚不是魚，何奇之有，何況擺在眼前的是一所新建的——流浮山公立小學呢，這當然不會迷途啊！

「蠔是怎樣繁殖的呢？」
「我以為蠔是卵生的。」
「不是，你何曾見到或聽到『蠔蛋』，我以為牠是胎生的。」
「我想蠔是屬於分裂繁殖的，但牠一定是由樹叢中分裂出來的。」
「胡說！」「嘻嘻！哈哈！……」

「蠔公和蠔母有何分別？」
「這個……」

在行程中，不知怎樣的竟有人提出以上的兩個難於解答的問題，使人瞠目結舌，不知所措。但一經挑起好奇心，那肯罷休，正如春水一池

，卻因落石而引起圈圈漣漪，又怎能即時回復「平如鏡」的景象呢？「讓我親自到海邊蠔場去看看，找出答案——這是每個人的願望。」

傳不如聞，百聞不如一見，當他們到達海邊的蠔田時，一切一切的疑難都迎刃而解了。經過他們的耳聞、實地目覩，再加上不厭求詳的向採蠔的開蠔的工人發問和領教，舉凡養蠔、採蠔、開蠔的方法，那些人們的生活，蠔鼓、蠔油的製法、蠔的生殖法，以至辨別蠔的雌雄的方法……等，無不知之甚詳，無怪有人說：「讀萬卷書不如行萬里路」，世界之大，無奇不有，幾許寶貴實用的知識，是不能求諸書本的。

腦海中充滿了蠔的知識，各人的肚子裏卻是空空洞洞，正是如入寶山，那肯空手而回，所以在臨離去前，他們還舉行了一頓豐富的「蠔宴」，蒸、炒、炸、焗，鮮肥、嫩滑，並皆佳妙，大快朵頤！幾位「仁姐」，又食又帶，實行與家人共享此營養滋味並茂的「奇珍」。

歸途中，各人猶念念不忘這極具意義的流浮山蠔鄉一日遊。良以此行收穫甚豐，腦子滿載，肚子亦滿載，日後回思，仍有餘甘云。

「賽西湖」之遊

浩

常委會及學治會的職員，日常工作繁忙，假期中舉行一次旅行，一方面散散心，一方面聯絡友情，是很好的事，故定於三月廿八日星期六舉行賽西湖之遊。

是日，天氣宜人，中午一時左右，大家在指定地點集合，在單主席率領下，一行十七人，浩浩蕩蕩魚貫攀登北角小崗，直搗賽西湖。沿途談笑風生，全無拘束。先走一道二百二十五級之石級（據一位心水清的在校同學之統計），遂至一平台。高站台上，可遠眺海景，只見海水平靜如鏡，有若仙境。眺望一週，便再前行，途經崎嶇峻險的羊腸小徑，多位女同學屢次演出「驚險」鏡頭，非常有趣。走過山路，抵達剛在建築中的北角半山公路，各人心情輕鬆，回味「驚險」情形，均為之捧腹。沿公路走，漸漸趨近目的地——賽西湖。

賽西湖是一個人所週知的野餐勝地，雖比不上杭州的西湖，但亦有它的神韻。它是一個三面環山一面臨海的大水塘，塘四週有堤岸，

堤上長着蘆葦，高度與人齊，山坡上是綠油油的松林，雜以五彩的花叢，幽靜極了。加上塘水時而靜止如鏡，微風過處，又起漪漣片片，山林人物的倒影，隨着移動，簡直是一個詩境。遊者可攀山，亦可野餐樹下，教師們要為小學生舉辦旅行，這是一處適宜的地方。

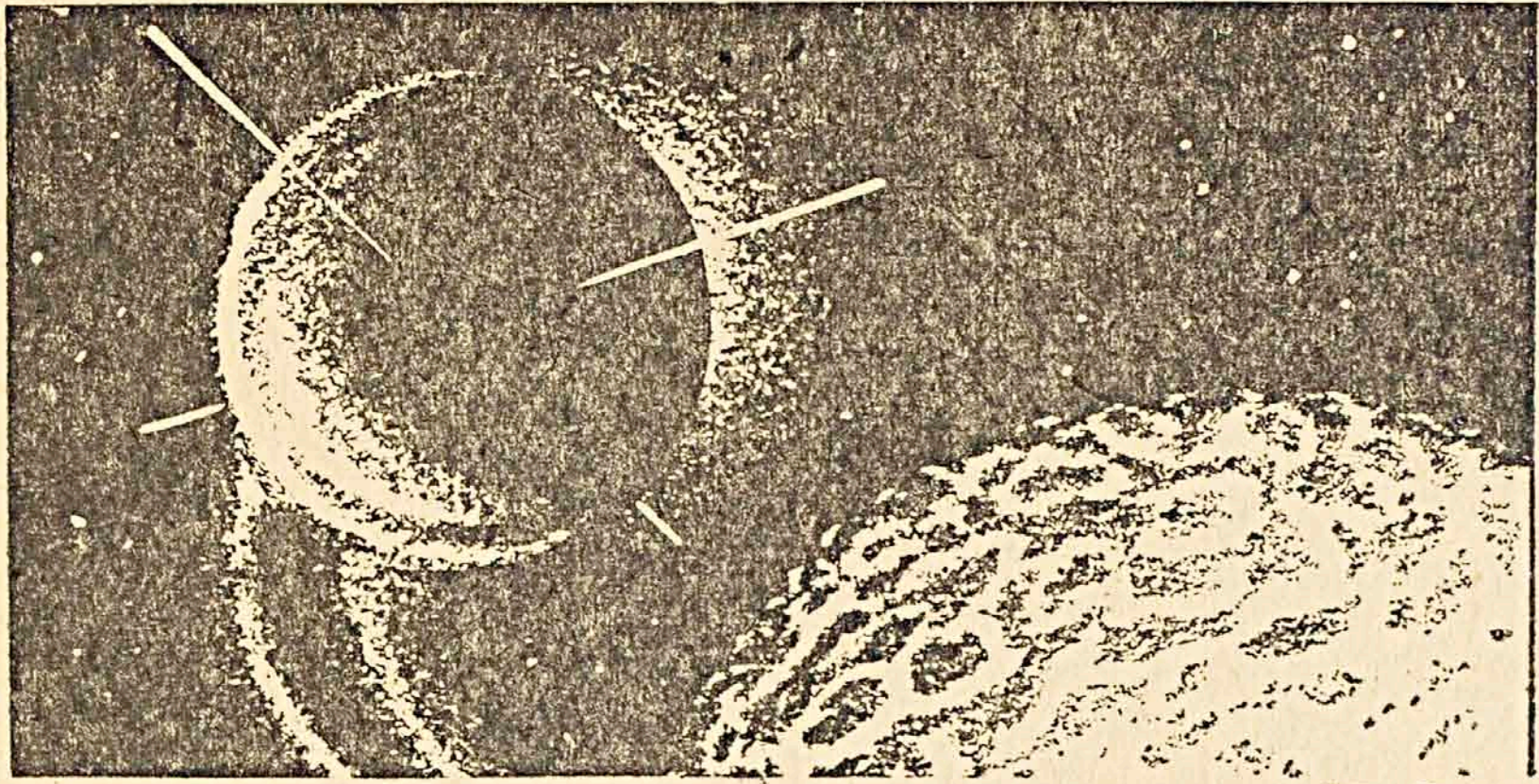
我們並不寂寞，同到那處野餐的學生及童子軍衆多，簡直難找適宜的地方休息。黃、蘇兩位開路先鋒，提議再攀山，找適宜地方作集體遊戲和野餐。於是再沿山徑而登，迄山後一幽谷，谷為一空地，上有平鋪着的蘆葦草，可供席坐。是時天氣突變，微雨點點落下，但各人都不願掃興而返，決定留下，於是盤膝而坐，在草坪上小食和談天。有人發覺一盒食物失了踪，經過一陣騷動，才在一位同學後面的草叢中覓回，原來是由一位同學收藏起來的。

原定的遊戲，不能進行，因當時下着毛毛雨；單主席提議打一野

戰，由她任公證人，將十六人分為兩隊，相互進攻，以能攫取對方防守嚴密的軍旗為勝。開始前，雙方忙於商量進攻策略，號令一下，則有殺機四起，風聲鶴唳，草木皆兵的感覺。勇士們拼命進攻，十面埋伏。甲方蘇君因智勇超人，單身匹馬直陷敵陣，救出同伴凌君，使能及時攫取軍旗，報捷而返。

第一仗完畢後，易地再戰，戰情更加激烈，甲方再接再厲，拚力進攻，乙方麥君不甘落後一馬當先，乘對方陣形未穩，便乘機攻入，以圖擾亂，但為凌君發覺，在後窮追，以致兩人都遠竄荒郊，最後麥君被俘，真有一出師未捷身先死，長使英雄淚滿襟」的感慨。雙方陣地的守旗者都威風凜凜，拼命守衛，功績非常大。第二仗雖戰情激烈，但竟和了。戰後，發現傷將纍纍，如李君的身濕鞋破，凌君、蘇君、鄧君，和黃君都變了落湯雞；戰情之劇，由此可見一斑了。

各人玩得忘形，忘却天雨的威脅。玩畢時已是雨過天晴，陽光滿地，大家還想逗留一會再玩集體遊戲，可是時間已不早，只得收拾各物，踏上回程。



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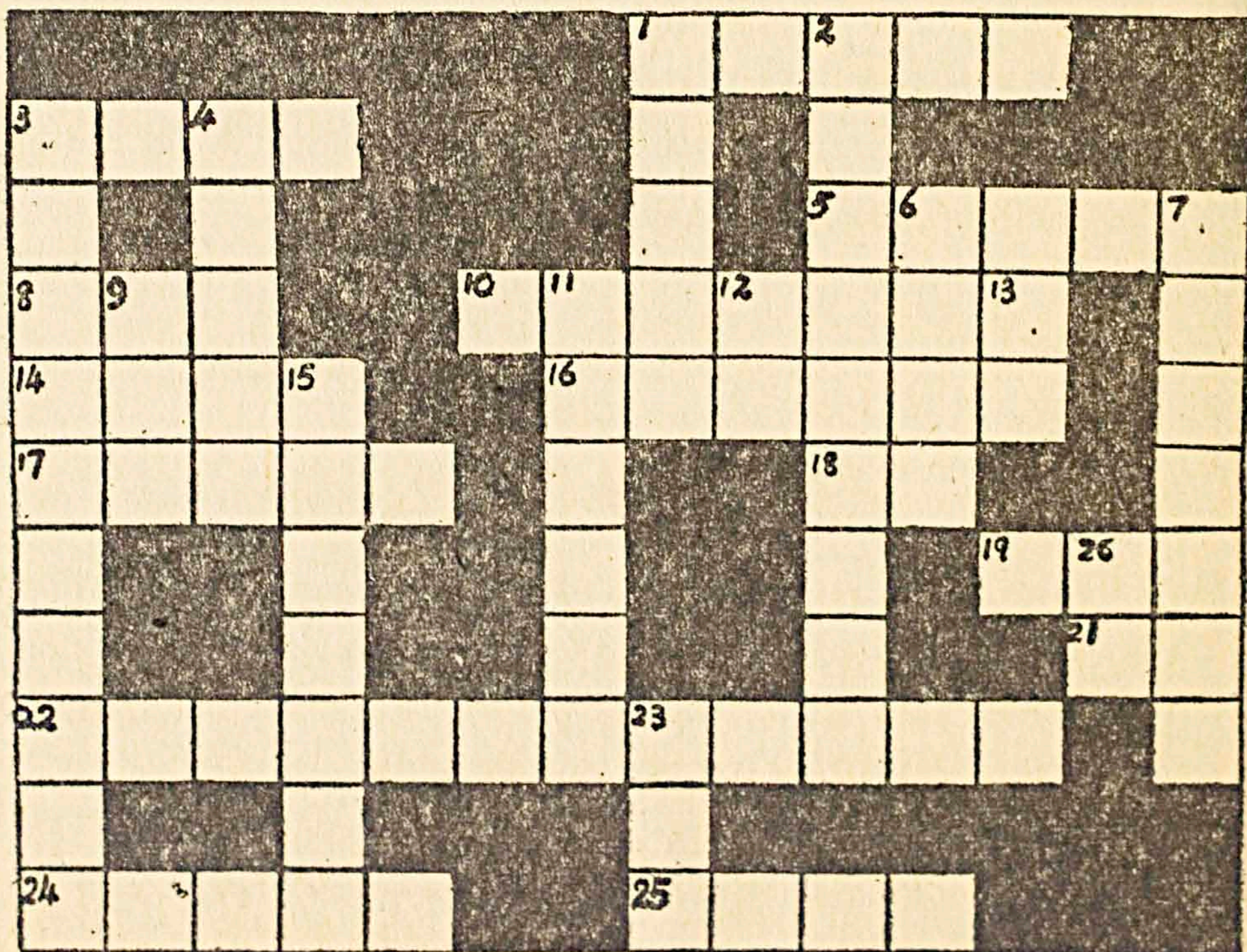
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DOWN

1. The opposite of "above"
2. A meat-eating animal
3. A meeting place
6. Part of a sword
7. A terse, witty pointed statement
9. You cannot fry a fish without it
11. What you say when you see your friend in the street
12. What you say when you cannot hear one clearly
13. The abbreviation for "Xenon"
15. The man who checks the railway lines
20. Verb to be, used with singular nouns in the third person and in the present tense
23. A Greek alphabet



12. John goes to school.....me.
13. I was in Canada.....1950.
14. John works on a farm.....the summer.
15. We were not at home.....Tuesday.

ACROSS

1. The diminutive of Rebecca
3. What we put at the bottom left-hand corner of an invitation card
5. A river flowing through southern Switzerland and southeastern France into the Mediterranean
8. The adverb derived from the word "No"
10. A beautiful, lone bird which lived in the Arabian desert for 500 or 600 years and then consumed itself in fire, rising renewed from the ashes to start another long life
14. The rotating disk on a telephone
16. Just a minute
17. A variant of Elisha
18. A grammatical term
19. A species of evergreen tree
21. The abbreviation for "Salvation Army"
22. A figure of speech, in which a word is formed by imitating the natural sound associated with the object or action involved
24. A river in France flowing through Paris into the English Channel
25. The round, pigmented membrane surrounding the pupil of the eye

An inattentive pupil was punished to stand up during the lesson. During the recess, the pupil told his classmate, "Our teacher is most understanding. You know, I was too tired and impatient to sit there all the time anyway."

Supplementary Exercises in English for P.6 (3)

(A) Punctuate this passage:

on sundays uncle john our good neighbour would come to have tea with us after tea he would say what a fine day it is who would like to take a walk with me we would keep silent and look at father if father nodded to us we would all go with uncle john during our long walk we would stroll through the dark wood over the little hills and round the fish ponds until we were quite tired we would then all sit down in the shade uncle john mary our little sister would call out tell us a story well what sort of a story do you like to hear any kind of story we would all say

(B) Fill in the blanks with 'in', 'on', 'at', 'to', 'with', or 'from':

1. The telephone is.....the sitting room.
2. Mr.Wong is walking.....the living room.....the hall.
3. She is going.....the telephone.
4. Jimmy is standing.....the table.....the living room.
5. He is looking.....a magazine.
6. Mr. Lee is sitting the sofa.
7. The cat is lying.....the floor.
8. Mr. Chan walks.....his factory every morning.
9. Do you work.....Sunday?
10. Mary went.....school.....her father this morning.
11. I go home.....school.....half past six.

which he thought could not happen had happened.

The writer sincerely hopes that those readers who have an aptitude for mechanical work will carry the idea further so that one day such self-cleaning blackboards may become a reality.

CHEWING GUM

By: Arrow

A boy showed his school report to his mother for her signature.

Mother: "Why is it that some are written in red and others in blue?"

Boy: "Our teacher is fond of variety."

Mother: "Why is there more red than blue?"

Boy: "He likes red better."

* * * * *

In the course of a lesson on animals, a pupil was found scribbling something on a piece of paper. The paper was seized by the teacher, who took it into the teachers' common room at the end of the lesson. The paper was found to contain the following:

cats	mice
tigers	lambs
teachers	pupils

After some time, when the teacher came across the piece of paper again, it was found to contain the following addition:

teachers	inspectors
----------	------------

* * * * *

possible. The writer has in mind what can be termed a self-cleaning blackboard. In principle, the surface of the blackboard is wiped by wipers which operate like the washer-wipers of a motor-car. These wipers are placed in such positions that, upon pressing a button, they will sweep over the surface of the blackboard with very speedy movements. The portion of the board to be cleaned can be adjusted by setting keys somewhat like those in a type-writer. To prevent the chalk powder from scattering and drifting about in the air, the wipers can be equipped with devices functioning like miniature vacuum cleaners so that such powder will be sucked away the moment they leave the surface of the blackboard. A simpler and far more economical way is to moisten the wipers with water or some other kinds of volatile liquid. In this way the chalk powder will adhere to the moistened wipers.

Readers will no doubt laugh at the idea on the ground that such a device is economically unjustifiable even if it is technically feasible. Well, being neither an economist nor a mechanic, the writer does not intend to argue. Frankly, if such a blackboard were on sale now, no school would avail itself to it by sheer reason of its alarming cost. Yet who can confidently preclude the possibility of such a day when mechanical science is so advanced that the cost of production will only be a fraction of what it is now; that when automation is so universally employed that efficiency and comfortable working conditions will be of primary consideration? Who, for instance, would envisage the luxury of air-conditioning being enjoyed by school children when such novelty was first introduced? Sir Winston Churchill once wrote that everything

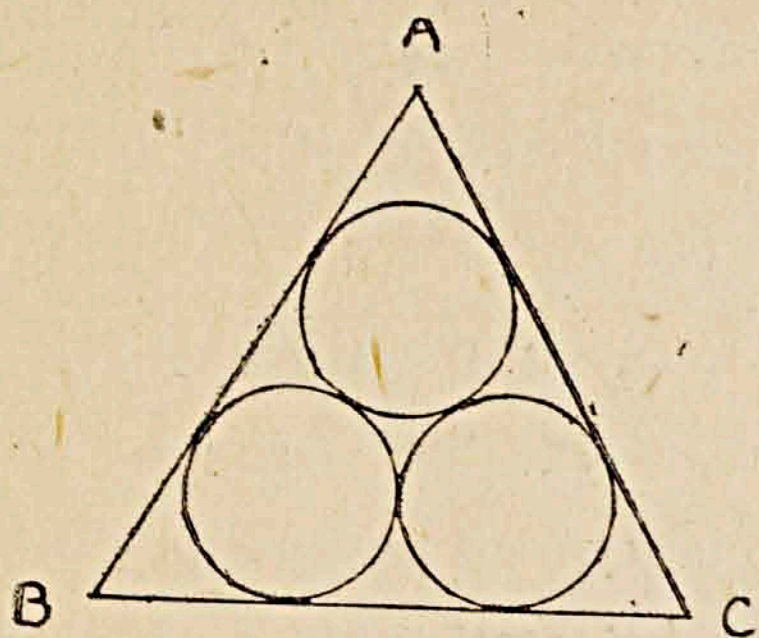


Fig. 5

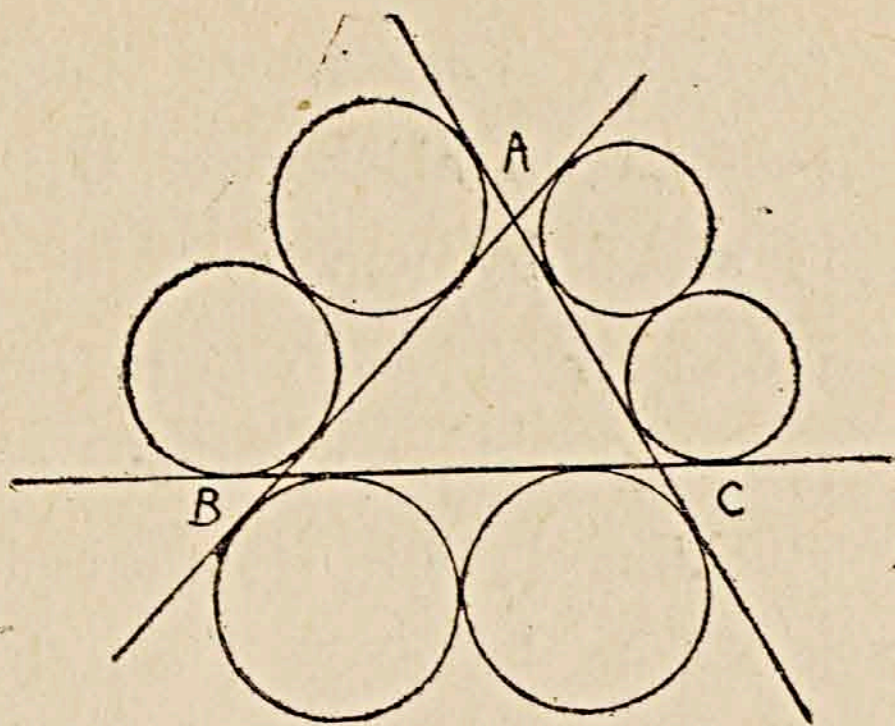


Fig. 6

* For each of the circles to touch three sides of the triangle will mean that they are identical with the inscribed circle.

AUTOMATION IN THE CLASSROOM H.Y.L

“Automation” and “classroom”? What classroom processes need to be done by automation? If you cannot think of any, you are very fortunate indeed. For, the strenuous rubbing and cleaning of the blackboard which necessarily accompanies 99 out of 100 lessons has not got on your nerves; and the chalk that constantly showers onto your coat has not irritated you. Have you ever felt, in the course of a “heavy” lesson when you have plenty to put across in a limited period of time, that the mere rubbing away of what you have written or drawn on the board takes up quite a considerable amount of time which could otherwise be put to far better use? Have you ever felt, when you are making blackboard summaries or notes to be copied down by the pupils, that much more could be written if the time spent on cleaning the board could be greatly reduced?

Even if you do not share the same opinion as the writer, perhaps you will not hesitate to agree that if the cleaning of the blackboard could be accomplished by pressing a button, and if the showering off of the chalk particles could be eliminated, the teacher’s work would be much more pleasant and comfortable.

Can this be done? well, it should at least be theoretically

from the two equal circles; while for an equilateral triangle the three circles thus obtained are equal. (see fig. 4, 5)

Extending the above conditions to the escribed circles of the triangle, a diagram like fig. 6 may be obtained. Here it is sufficient to state that the radii of the sets of circles are respectively the reciprocals of

$$\frac{2}{a} + \frac{1}{r_1} \quad ; \quad \frac{2}{b} + \frac{1}{r_2} \quad ; \quad \frac{2}{c} + \frac{1}{r_3}$$

with the usual interpretation for r_1 , r_2 and r_3 .

Should these circles be called the "satellites" of the triangle?

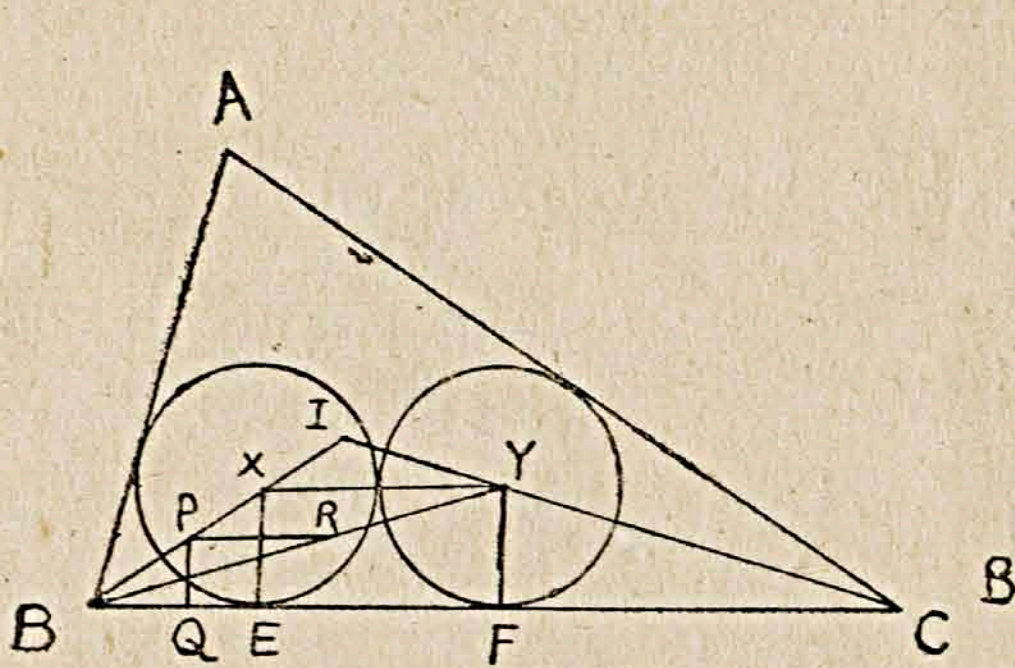


Fig. 1

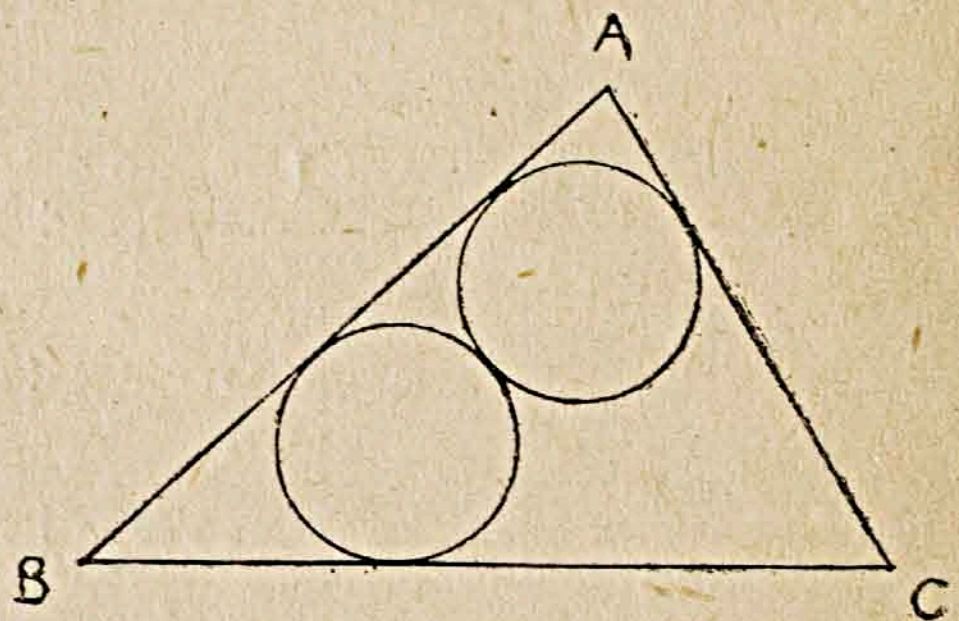


Fig. 3

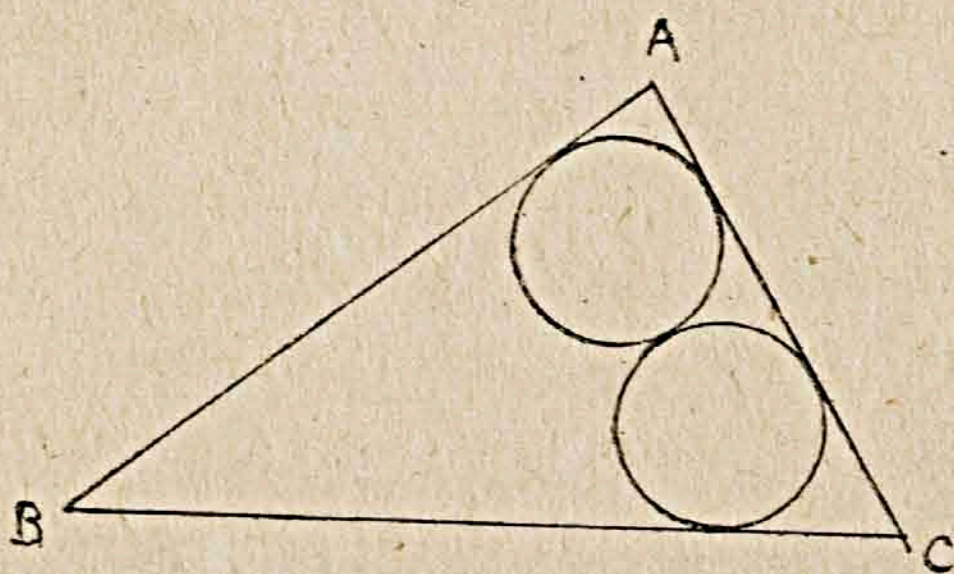


Fig. 2

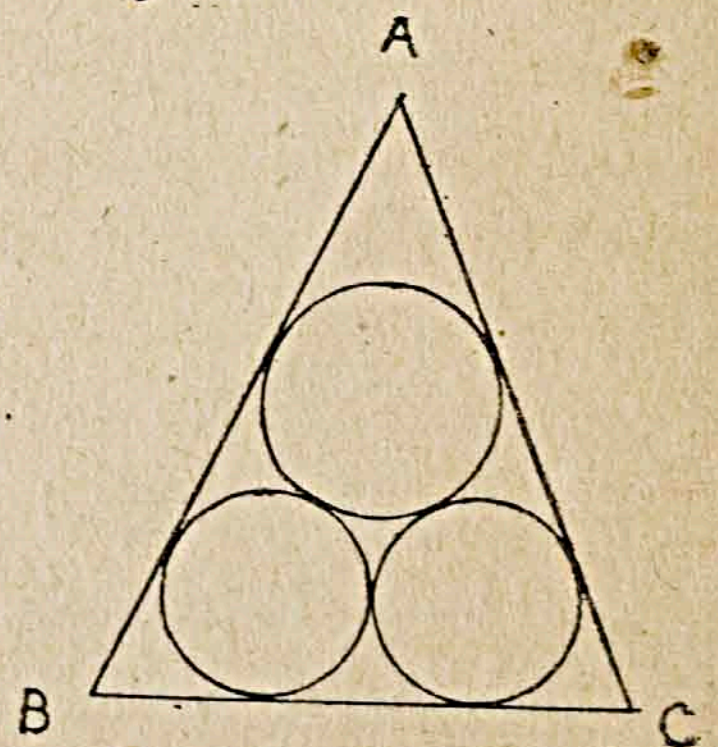


Fig. 4

The proof is quite elementary and obvious on considering the similar triangles concerned.

(B) Length of the radii of the circles

With the usual notations for the elements and various radii of circles of the triangle and the formula: $r=4R \sin\frac{1}{2}A \sin\frac{1}{2}B \sin\frac{1}{2}C$, let r_a be the length of the radius of the pair of equal circles with "a" as the common tangent.

Then from triangles BXE and CYF,

$$BE=r_a \cot\frac{1}{2}B; \quad CF=r_a \cot\frac{1}{2}C.$$

From the rectangle XYFE, $EF=2r_a$.

$$\text{Therefore} \quad 2r_a + r_a \cot\frac{1}{2}B + r_a \cot\frac{1}{2}C = a$$

That is

$$r_a = \frac{a}{2 + \cot\frac{1}{2}B + \cot\frac{1}{2}C}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{or} \quad \frac{1}{r_a} &= \frac{2}{a} + \frac{1}{a} \times \left(\cot\frac{1}{2}B + \cot\frac{1}{2}C \right) \\ &= \frac{2}{a} + \frac{1}{a} \times \frac{\cos\frac{1}{2}B \sin\frac{1}{2}C + \cos\frac{1}{2}C \sin\frac{1}{2}B}{\sin\frac{1}{2}B \sin\frac{1}{2}C} \\ &= \frac{2}{a} + \frac{1}{2R \sin A} \times \frac{\sin\frac{1}{2}(B+C)}{\sin\frac{1}{2}B \sin\frac{1}{2}C} \\ &= \frac{2}{a} + \frac{1}{4R \sin\frac{1}{2}A \cos\frac{1}{2}A} \times \frac{\cos\frac{1}{2}A}{\sin\frac{1}{2}B \sin\frac{1}{2}C} \\ &= \frac{2}{a} + \frac{1}{4R \sin\frac{1}{2}A \sin\frac{1}{2}B \sin\frac{1}{2}C} \\ &= \frac{2}{a} + \frac{1}{r} \end{aligned}$$

The other sets of radii are respectively given by

$$\frac{1}{r_b} = \frac{2}{b} + \frac{1}{r}; \quad \frac{1}{r_c} = \frac{2}{c} + \frac{1}{r}.$$

In order to complete the process of "heart" breaking, we may ask whether it is possible to construct another circle to touch the two circles already drawn and the sides which are not common tangents so far. The answer is in general not possible. If the triangle is isosceles, such a circle exists but is different

Suppose we 'dis-integrate' this inscribed circle into two other circles with the following properties:-

- (1) they touch one another;
- (2) each of the circles touches two sides of the triangle* and
- (3) the circles touch the three sides of the triangle.

From (2) and (3), since there are only three sides available, one side of the triangle must be a common tangent to the two circles.

Under the above conditions, there are indefinitely many ways to break up the inscribed circle as it is always possible to construct a circle (or circles) to touch two fixed non-parallel lines and a fixed circle. Thus we may draw an arbitrary circle to touch the two sides of the triangle first and then construct a circle to touch this circle and two sides of the triangle. But if we add one more condition:-

- (4) the two circles are equal,

then as can be seen from fig. 1,2,3, there are only three possible positions for the pair of equal circles in the triangle.

The three positions shown are really the same save for the notation. In what follows, reference is made to fig. 1 only.

(A) Construction of the two circles with BC as the common tangent

- (I) Let the bisectors of angles B and C meet at I.
- (II) Take any point P on BI and drop PQ perpendicular to BC.
- (III) From P draw PR parallel to BC such that $PR=2PQ$
- (IV) Join BR and let BR or BR produced meet IC at Y.
- (V) From Y draw a line parallel to BC meeting BI at X.
- (VI) Drop XE and YF perpendicular to BC

Then X, Y are the centres of the required circles with radii equal to either XE or YF.

very much to us Chinese; for we help to bring a lot of trade and employment to the people. The majority of the merchants come from Eastern Kwangtung. As a result, the "Chiu Chow" dialect becomes very commonly spoken in the shops and markets. Even some Siamese find it to their advantage to learn it.

To stimulate and encourage internal trade among the Siamese, the King of Siam permits his people to turn his royal park into a centre for buying and selling on Sundays. As you must know, the hawkers in Bangkok need no license to do business.

One cannot leave Siam without mentioning the people's religion. Most of them are keen Buddhists. People said that it brings a man good fortune if only he has been a monk once in his life. A monk does not have to worry about his living since he finds it easy to get charity from the public who respect him. In the monastery, he has to learn the rules of how to be clean both in body and mind. A Siamese girl would consider whether her suitor has been a monk before she decides to marry him.....

Siam is indeed a charming country worthy of our visit.

MATHEMATICS CORNER

On Breaking the "Heart" of a Triangle

by S. L. Ho

It is not just coincidence that there is a unique inscribed circle for a triangle. This geometrical fact has been discussed long long ago and the relation between this circle and the fundamental elements of the triangle has been thoroughly discussed and now forms a part of study in mathematics for our young generation.

A GLIMPSE OF BANGKOK

by T. K. Cheng

A few years ago during the summer vacation, as a tourist, I paid a short visit to Bangkok, the capital of Siam which is not the least unknown to us in our study of Far Eastern geography.

Four hours of travel by plane from Hong Kong took me straight to the Bangkok Air-port situated several miles from the city area. The first impression I made on the country was its monotonous flatness of relief. You would be pleasantly surprised to find even a low hill in the distant skyline. I wonder how much the Siamese admire Hong Kong when I showed them the photo of Hong Kong with Victoria Peak in its background. At least I heard one say, "What a beautiful city Hong Kong is with its hills and valleys!"

Flowing across the city of Bangkok is the River Menam which is a few miles from the mouth of the river and is about 200 feet wide. It plays a very important part in the life of the Siamese. Standing beside its bank one would find it interesting to notice big logs of wood floating downstream, after travelling hundreds of miles to find their resting place in the sawmills. What struck me most strangely was the simple dwelling, a space just enough for a person to sleep on under cover. One would never expect to find life on those floating logs. At the edge of the river where the flow is gentle, children found joy, bathing in the warm muddy water under the shade of trees almost touching the surface of the river. The pigs and cattle on board the steamers reminded me of the agriculture and stockraising in delta regions.

Besides farming, the present prosperity of Bangkok owes

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