

A Letter to Sean

2B Kwok Sin Tung

4th March 2008

Dear Sean,

Hello! I have read your article on *Young Post* which helped me know more about your city and your life in Germany. The weather in Germany is cooler than that of Hong Kong. The highest temperature in Hong Kong goes up to 32 degree Celsius in summer. Are you used to our hot and humid weather?

I got up at 6a.m. to catch the school bus. From eight o'clock, I study Chinese, English, Maths, History, Computer, Visual Arts, Liberal Studies, Music, Geography, Integrated Science, Chinese History, Physical Education and Design & Technology. Chinese Culture Club is my extra-curricular activity.

My ambition is to go to the university, so I will be diligent to finish my homework at this moment. Do you want to know more about Chinese culture and Hong Kong sightseeing spots? Let me introduce them to you.

Chinese New Year, also known as the Lunar New Year or the Spring Festival, is the most important traditional Chinese holidays. In our legend, Nian (Nyan), a man-eating predatory beast from the mountains, could infiltrate houses silently and it destroyed everything. The Chinese were always scared of this monster. They later learned that Nian was sensitive to loud noises and the colour, red. So, they scared it away with explosion, fireworks and the use of red.

Ocean Park is a popular Hong Kong sightseeing spot. Ocean Park is one of the perennially popular attractions in Hong Kong, providing entertainment, education and conservation facilities. It is in the south of Hong Kong Island. It is a very famous amusement park. If you have time, you should visit it.

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Regards,
Rainie Kwok



Picture: 3D Chu Ching Yee

Sean Michael Siewers 6A

10th March 2008



Hey Rainie! Thank you very much for your letter.

Straight to your question: No! I lost the hope to get used to the temperature very early. To get used it within ten months is nearly impossible for a northern European like me. The winter was comfortable but now it's getting warmer and when I walk too fast, I'll start sweating. It's horrible!

Sorry for misunderstanding you but you take the school bus at 6:00 am? Why? I mean where do you live? At this time, I'm still dreaming and hugging my pillow.

I think it's the target of the most students to enter the university. If not, they may have rich parents. It's different from Germany because in Germany you have more opportunities to get a good and well-paid job. When I'm back in Germany, my target is to finish my last school year with great success. So my education will offer me my dream job.

I was a bit shocked about your description of 'Nyan'. I guess everyone would be afraid of such a monster. If someone told me about that before the Chinese New Year, I would probably not to stay for the New Year in Hong Kong. But luckily it's not true and we are still alive. Thanks a lot for the Ocean Park introduction. It was really entertaining when I visited the park, but it seemed a bit messy because of all the renovation. This was the reason why I couldn't fully enjoy the park. Too many attractions were closed for renovation.

However, I hope you can achieve your goal. It's not easy. Nevertheless, you should try to avoid too much pressure. If you can't handle the situation, do some sports or take a chill out. After that, you might look from another point of view and have some new ideas to solve the problem. That's the way I deal with it. (In a healthy body is a healthy spirit) Think you know what I mean.

Nice regards,
Sean



A letter to Sean

2B Cheng Hoi Yan

4th March 2008

Dear Sean,

My name is Terri Cheng from Class 2B. I am thirteen years old. At school, I have joined some activities such as Prefects' Team and Music Club. I love singing very much. I hope I can be a singer when I grow up. Have you joined any activities at school? Are they fun? In the lessons, some of my classmates love chatting. But they are the best students, too. I always play with them. I like my classmates very much.

Oh! I have read your article. I knew your activities. I think you miss your family very much. Since my mother has gone to Australia, I miss her, too. In the article, you said that you did a lot of sports, played on the computer, met with friends in the spare time. In my free time, I usually play some online games and watch television. It is boring!

In Hong Kong, there are two theme parks: Ocean Park and Disneyland. I think Ocean Park is better than Disneyland because Disneyland targets at young people. Sean, have you been to Ocean Park and Disneyland? If not, I can go with you.

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Yours

Terri



Sean Michael Siewers 6A

10th March 2008



Hey Terri,

I'm very pleased about your letter, your design was very... 'Colourful'. Until now, I haven't heard anything about the Music Club. Actually, instead of singing by myself, I prefer to listen to music such as some German Hip-Hop artists and Rap/ R&B from

international artists. The reason why I avoid singing is simple. My voice isn't made to sing. Listen to me and I will make you agree. Are you just listening to Cantonese or other Asian songs? Do you have some favourite international songs?

To your question: In the beginning of my school term, I joined the Football and Basketball Clubs but after we lost the football match, we stopped training and my last basketball practice was a long time ago. Now I'm more concentrated on my 'German Culture Club' and try to teach students here a bit about the downfall of the third Reich. Hope it won't be too boring.

Yes of course I miss my parents a little but I saw them for straight 18 years, so I see it as a small break from them. But if I feel homesick, I can phone them or write mails.

Is your mother still in Australia? How do you keep in touch with her?

I have had the chance to go to Ocean Park and Disneyland already. Unfortunately I have to say I'm a bit disappointed of both of them.

When I was a small child, I travelled a few times with my parents to Disneyland Resort Paris in France and still until now I remember it as the most impressive and largest amusement park that I've ever seen. I know I can't compare these two parks with each other but Ocean Park was really more interesting but it was a shame that I couldn't see many spots because it was renovating. So many attractions were closed.

Sorry but please don't mind my not so 'colourful' letter.

Warm regards,
Sean



China — Beijing

3A Lui Chi Man

Background information:

Beijing is located in northern China as the capital of the People's Republic of China. The city covers an area of more than 16,800 square kilometers and has about 15 million people. Beijing is a city with four distinct seasons, they are spring, summer, autumn and winter. Its official language is Putonghua. There is a special event in the city this summer—2008 Olympics Games.

Flight information:

As one of five major international airports in China, Capital International Airport (PEK) serves the largest number of international and domestic airlines, about 200 in total. The main cities of every province and autonomous region within China and over

60 foreign cities throughout the world are accessible from this airport. You just need to take about 4 hours to fly from Hong Kong to Beijing.

Traveling inside Beijing:

You can travel by train from Hong Kong to Beijing, it takes about 2 days. In Beijing, local people don't take taxi, but it is the most convenient way for newcomers to travel around a metropolis like Beijing. The taxi are visible at the airport, railway station and bus stations.

Public bus numbers beginning with '8' are air-conditioned; other numbers indicate double-decker, special tour lines, night buses, and so on. The ticket price is 1 Yuan for city routes, while ticket prices for bus with air-conditioning is 2 Yuan. If there is no conductor on the bus, passengers should board the bus at the front, drop the fares into the box and exit at the rear door.

Hotel information:

Prime Hotel Beijing is a four-star hotel. A variety of services are provided, for example, a health club with a sauna room, a steam room, plunge pools, mahjong rooms and sixteen massage rooms. A separate full-service health spa contains an indoor pool and a fitness center equipped with treadmills, weight stations and cycling machines are available.

Festival:

Beijing has many festivals, the most important one is National day. This is a golden week. All mainland Chinese have a one-week holiday. Second, the Olympics Games is coming soon. 2008 Summer Olympic Games is going to be held in Beijing. Next, there is also Lunar New Year Holiday.

Attractions:

a) Tiananmen Square:

With the biggest central square in the world — Tiananmen Square, the Forbidden City, and the Temple of Heaven are the largest and best-preserved imperial palace complex. Located in the center of Beijing City is Tiananmen Square, where you can visit Tiananmen Tower, Memorial to the People's Heroes, Great Hall of the People, Mao Zedong Memorial Hall and see the national flag raising ceremony. Thousands of people come to the Square every day. It is a must visit place in Beijing City.

b) The Great Wall:

The well-preserved sections of the Great Wall in Beijing are the most famous tourist site. These sections are mainly the remains from the Ming Dynasty, an era of tremendous construction. The wall runs across the northern part of Beijing for over six hundred kilometers with various parts and towers. The main sections include Badaling, Jinshanling, Mutianyu and Shanhaiguan.

Chairman Mao said that “You are not a plucky hero till you climb the Great Wall”.

c) Forbidden City:

Forbidden City used to be a palace for Kings and Queens of Ming and Qing Dynasties.

The Chinese government in 1925, altered it into the Palace Museum Forbidden City, for people to visit.

Activities:

Summer Palace ----> Knows the history 頤和園

Imperial Palace ----> Visits the biggest, the most complete historic building group 故宮

Beijing Badaling Great Wall ----> Appreciates the grand scenery 北京八達嶺長城

Contact information:

1) http://www.chinahotel.com.cn/Beijing_big5/

2) <http://www.travelchinaguide.com/cityguides/beijing/>



Picture: 3C Cheung Cheuk Yi



Picture: 2A Man Chui Ying

Beijing, the capital of China

3A Ho Sui Ting

Background information

Beijing is the capital of China. The population is about 15,000,000. Putonghua and Cantonese are the official languages of this city. The size of Beijing is 16,800km². There are four seasons in Beijing, they are spring, summer, autumn and winter. The 2008 summer Olympics will be held in Beijing.

Flight information:

It takes about 4 hours to fly from Hong Kong to Beijing. Beijing Capital International Airport (PEK) is one of the airports in Beijing. It is near Shun Yi.

Travelling inside Beijing:

Train: Beijing has two major railway stations. One of them is Beijing Railway station.

Taxi: You have to pay 10 Yuan for the first 4 km and 1-6 Yuan for each km thereafter.

Buses: These are over 600 bus routes in Beijing. The fares depend on the luxury level and air-conditioning.

Hotel Information:

Beijing International Hotel is a five star hotel which is near Tiananmen Square and Beijing Railway Station. The hotline of this Hotel is 6512-6688.

Festival/ Events:

Beijing will have a Lunar New Year holiday. Also, Beijing has National day and people will have a 'Golden Week' holiday.

Attractions:

1. Forbidden City: It was the Chinese imperial palace from the mid-Ming Dynasty to the Qing Dynasty.
2. Tiananmen Square: It is the large plaza near the center of Beijing. The square is 880 meters long from the south to north and 500 meters wide from the east to west.
3. Wangfujing street: It is located in the Dongcheng District of Beijing, and is one of the most famous Chinese shopping streets.

Activities:

In Beijing, you can go to many attractions, for example, Forbidden City, Tiananmen Square. It can help you know more about the Chinese. Also, if you want to buy souvenirs to your friends you can go to Wangfujing, as it is the most famous shopping street in Beijing.

Contact information:

Website: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Beijing>



Recommended itinerary

	Time	Location	Activities
Day 1	10:00	Hong Kong International Airport	assembled and go to Beijing
	11:30-12:30	Beijing International Hotel	take luggage and rest
	12:30-1:30	Beijing International Hotel	Lunch
	1:30-6:00	Beijing International Hotel	meet other people and play games
	6:00-7:00	Beijing International Hotel	Dinner
	7:00	Beijing International Hotel	rest, bath and sleep
Day 2	9:00-9:30	Beijing International Hotel	breakfast
	9:30-5:00	Beijing Zoo	know more about animals and finish the worksheets.
	6:00-7:00	Beijing International Hotel	Dinner
	7:00	Beijing International Hotel	rest bath and sleep
Day 3	9:00-9:30	Beijing International Hotel	Breakfast
	9:30-5:00	Forbidden City	Visit
	6:00-7:00	Beijing International Hotel	dinner
	7:00	Beijing International Hotel	rest, bath and sleep
Day 4	9:00-9:30	Beijing International Hotel	breakfast
	9:30-5:00	The Palace Museum of China	visit and finish the worksheet
	6:00-7:00	Beijing International Hotel	dinner
	7:00	Beijing International Hotel	rest, bath and sleep
Day 5	9:00-9:30	Beijing International Hotel	breakfast
	9:30-12:30	Wangfujing Street	shopping
	1:30-2:30	Beijing International Hotel	lunch
	2:30-3:30	Beijing International Hotel	Immigration
	3:30	Beijing Capital International Airport	back to Hong Kong