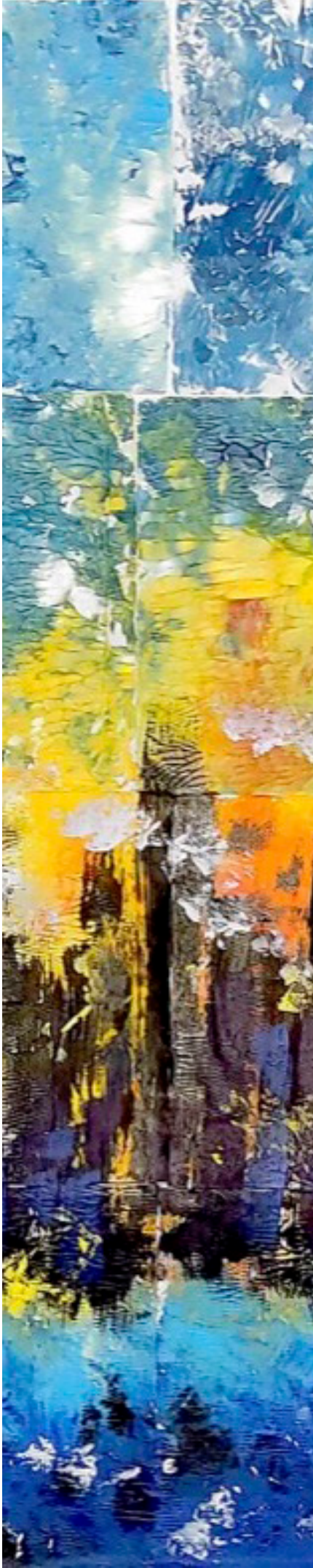


An abstract monoprint artwork by Jessica Wang. The composition is divided into a grid of rectangular panels. The top section features a light blue and white sky-like texture. The middle section is dominated by vibrant yellow and orange hues, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The bottom section is characterized by dark, textured brushstrokes in shades of blue, purple, and black, creating a sense of depth and shadow. The overall effect is a rich, multi-layered visual experience.

WLIFF

SWIPE APR-Jun 2024

**Monoprint
Cover by Jessica Wang**



WLIFE

Contributors

Editor in Chief

Thea Zhang

Director of Digital Media

Emmie Zhang

Editing Manager

Catarina Shi
Emmie Zhang
Finnie Chen
Joshua Ma

Cover Design

Jessica Wang

Contributors

Angela Du
Athena Zhou
Cynthia Chen
Emmie Zhang
Finnie Chen
Joshua Ma
Lisa Shao
Seven Xu
Tony Liu
Thea Zhang

Editors

Amanda Jin
Alice Qin
Carol Dong
Catarina Shi
Emmie Zhang
Finnie Chen
Nancy Xu
Olivia Tang
Rebecca Kuang
Seven Xu
Thea Zhang

Dear Readers,

We invite you to this year WLIFE's April to June issue, themed in "Swipe".

In an age where the simple action of swiping has become second nature, we often find ourselves lost in the endless scroll of social media. "Swipe" becomes metaphor for our times. It's the quick flick of a finger that can whisk us away from reality, the ephemeral connection to a virtual world that brings sudden bursts of endorphins

But what if, instead of swipe to lost, we could swipe to reconnect?

This issue invites you to take a break from the digital world. Artworks inspired by the splendid cityscape, essays inspired by the beauty of wildflowers, reflections on the impact of short videos on modern life... We collected students' work to encourage you to step into a more mindful existence.

Let this issue be a gentle nudge, a whisper in the whirlwind of modern life, urging you to swipe towards a world where you can find balance and harmony.

Happy reading, and may you find the calm amidst the chaos.

Warm regards,
Thea Zhang

Contents

01 Art Gallery

2-3 Monoprint

4 竹鸪图

02 Literature

6-8 Swpied Away Like Any Other

9 Useless

10-11 Wildflower

12-14 A Final Record

15-19 Plaque

20 To the Lighthouse

03 Journal

22-26 The Impact of Short Videos on the Modern Way of Life

04 Science

28-29 The Present Day Research about Parietal Lobe and Its Application

30-34 A Changing Economic Order: The U.S.- China Trade War

03 School Events

36-37 Science Fair

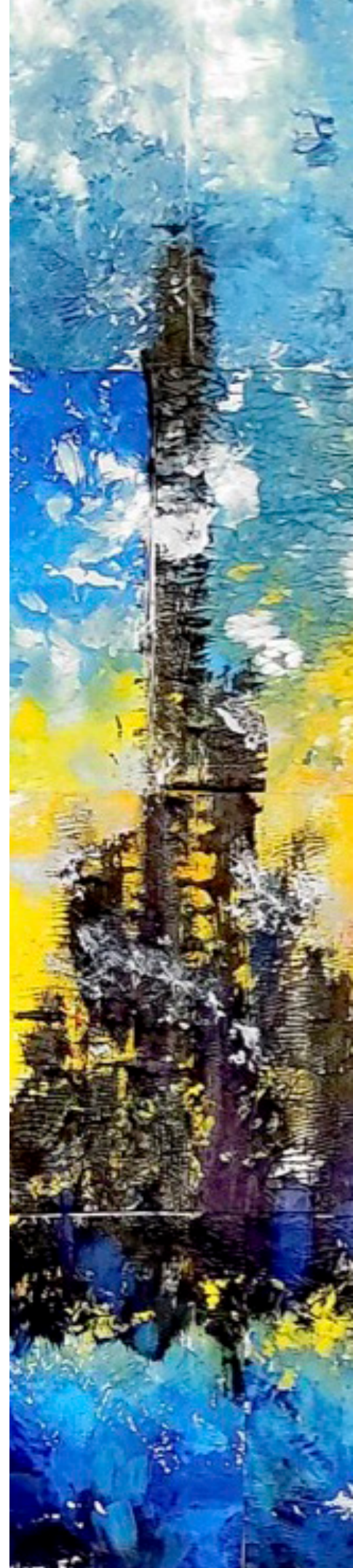
38-39 Heritage Day

40 Earth Day

SWIPE

APR-JUN 2024

WLSA SHANGHAI ACADEMY
JOURNAL



01 Art Gallery

Monoprint



G11 Kappa Jessica Wang
Inspired by Colin Campbell Cooper's Hudson
River Waterfront, New York City

I chose Hudson River Waterfront by Colin Campbell Cooper for my printmaking. He was an American impressionist painter known for his paintings of buildings, especially skyscrapers in New York, Philadelphia and Chicago. The reason why I choose this painting is first of all its color. Its dominant colors are yellow and blue, which are respectively the color reflected by the sunlight on the building and the color of the river. The two tones as a whole look harmonious, with the red and white accents, it looks very aesthetic. In addition, the painting also combines the two different landscapes of land and water, which appears to have a sense of hierarchy. At the end of the painting is a large area of clouds, and the next level is the building. The buildings are different in height, different in front and back, different in light and shade and color. Beyond that is the Hudson River, which stretches out in front of the eye and takes up about a fifth of the painting. The blue water was also mixed with green, possibly water plants, to add a different hue to the bland blue. There are also ships with smokes on the river, which add dynamic content to the static and make the painting more vivid. The layers in this painting fit well with the theme of monoprint, because in monoprint, all we have to do is to color and print layer by layer. Because it has very structured and distinct layers, it will save me some time when I do the second creation. That's why I chose this painting.



竹林节节青斑影，风暖振羽鸪鸣宁
清格正标春色好，励精图治不等闲

--- 胡立新

竹鸪图

Text&Design: G11 Delta 陈晓予

02 Literature



*Swiped
Away Like
Any Other*

G10 Theta Seven Xu
G10 Eta Emmie Zhang

I sit in my bed late at night troubled at the daydreams that will never make it's way into reality. I lose sleep at the things I'll never get to say. I toss and turn over the words I want so badly for you to hear. The damage I've done onto myself just for the idea of you, yet you don't see any of it. You can still swipe away our chats on your phone as if it was just any other spam notification. You don't do it to hurt me, but it happens anyway. I don't want to wish you a Happy Birthday, but I'm about to do so anyway.

Happy Birthday. You may not know this, but it's been two months since the first day I met you. That means that it's been two months since I've noticed how you're always winning, always smiling, always powering through it all, like the world around you is nonexistent, like you're the only person for miles on end.

It's been two months, which also means that for two months already, every

night, I felt like I was in the eye of the tornado, the center of the storm, somehow peaceful but still dominated by irrationality. I await for an answer that does not even exist, but it's all worth -while because it's you. It's something I hold dear because it's you. It's tiring, tormenting, downright painfully comical at times because it's you. But it's still you, after everything. It's an abyss because it's me. A perfectly normal night, a normal sky, and an abnormal mindset. The odd one out. The misfit. The glitch.

Winter's sunshine can warm a cold heart in times when the sun is out, but the minute evening strikes, the minute that last ray of sunshine falls below the mountain ridge, the dead silence within still becomes louder than ever.

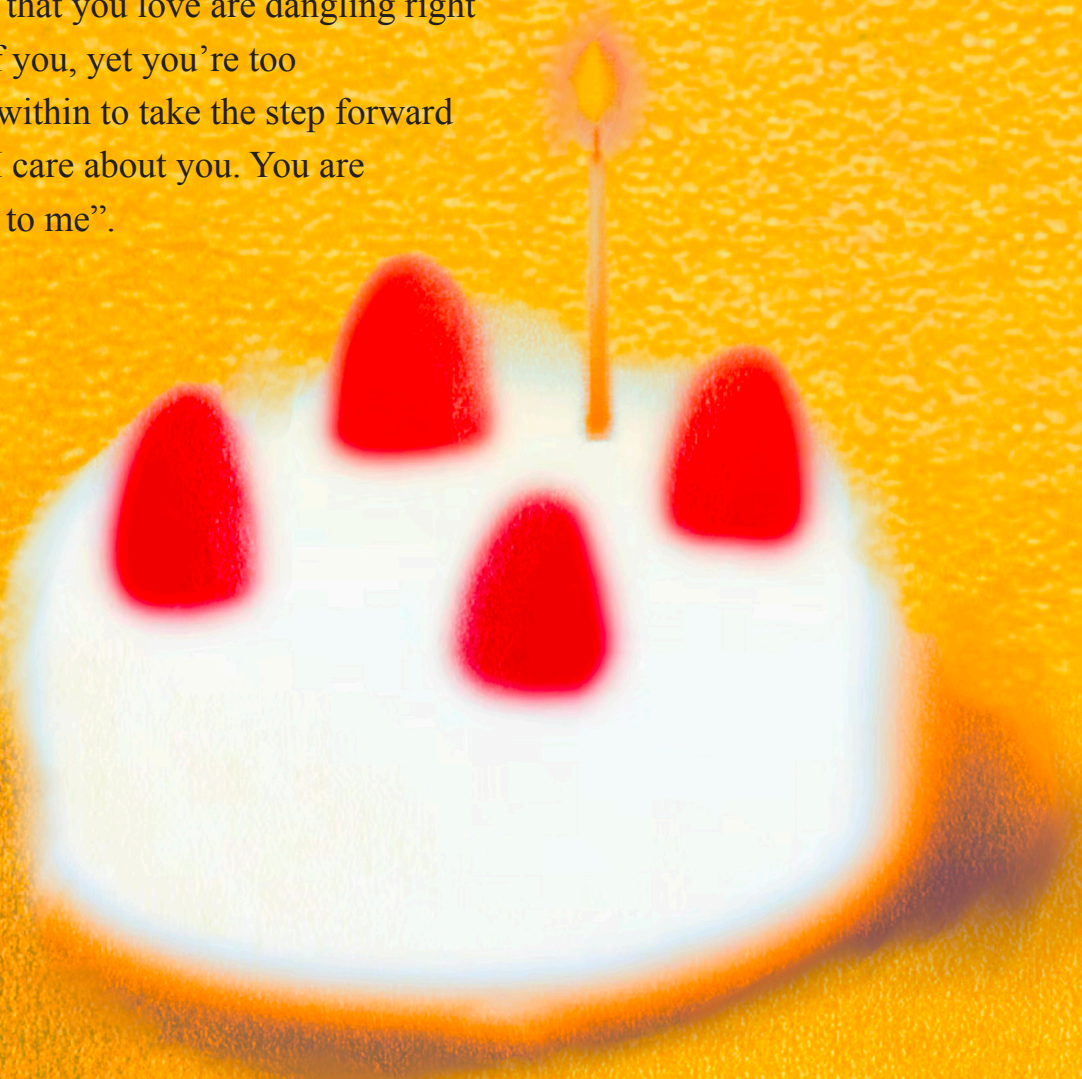


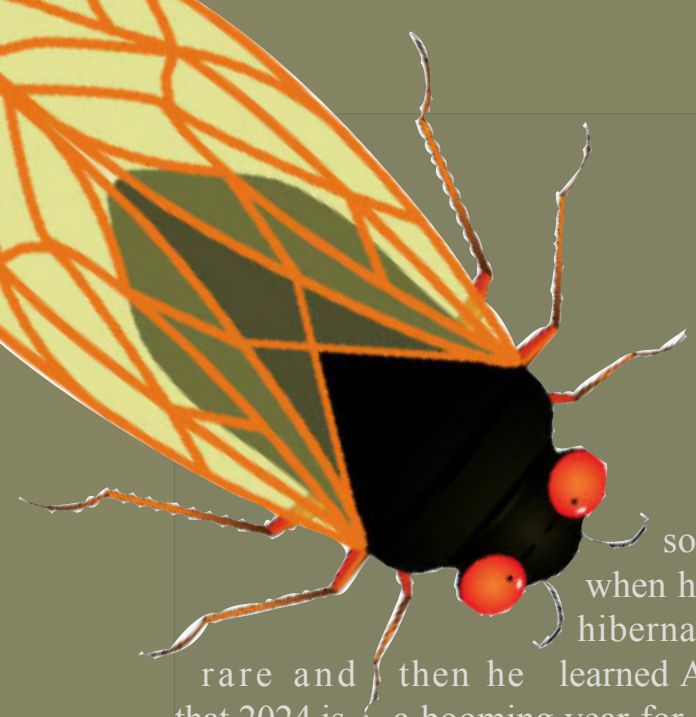
You see, it's hard to be saved if you're in an indefinite state of insanity, even if you have the passion to be renewed. Sometimes it feels like I'm nothing but a wide field of inconspicuous wheat, and I'm on my knees begging for the noble flower picker to notice me, as if they could even recognize me for my beauty, as if I even had beauty to be recognized.

I succeed at most things I do, but I fail at the ones that actually matter, or at least the ones I genuinely want to work out. A high scoring test paper means nothing when the things that you want, the things that you love are dangling right in front of you, yet you're too damaged within to take the step forward and say "I care about you. You are important to me".

The more you seem to be approachable, the less I seem to have the courage to talk to you. The closer you become to me, the more afraid I am of you. I think I like you less now that you know me so well. But this is me, the old, the new, the damaged, the healed, holding out my broken hands for the last time, and hoping that maybe in some miracle of a moment, you'll choose to take them without an ounce of regret.

Happy Birthday, from the bottom of my heart. Maybe for you, I'll cash in the luxury of wishing you happy every day. Not much deserve it, but if it's anybody, it's you. It's always you.





Useless

G10 Gamma
Joshua Ma

A friend living in South Dakota wrote to me, telling me that he notices that there laid so many cicada shells on the ground every morning when he walks the dog. Meanwhile, holes for baby cicada hibernations are all around their neighborhood. This is rare and then he learned After talking to a entomologist living neighboring, that 2024 is a booming year for cicada in east America and this happens only every 221 years, which means, next booming year will be 2245. The knowledgeable old man told me, that in east America, there are 2 native varieties of cicada, 1 being called the 13 year life length variety, the other being 17 year life length. Amazingly, the cycle of booming is 221, which is the least common multiple for 13 and 17, the two prime numbers!

Because of this finding, my friend is fascinated by the magic nature again, and he resumed his hobby of bird watching every early morning and he writes down the daily activities of a bluebird family living in a tree in his backyard. And he said he will share with me his findings from the bird observation, and I think it can be a science paper.

In our daily lives, much of such facts are ignored by ordinary people, because they are useless. In most cases, people learn a subject because it is useful, for example, learning accounting will bring a stable job to an accountant, practicing car driving because it can make you mobile. But knowledge about why there lay much more cicada shell is obviously useless, as it can't bring food or shelter to us, and why a bluebird getting up chirping at exactly 4:05am can't bring you an A to our GPA scorecard.

However, we know that most of the fundamental innovations were triggered by those tedious and useless knowledge and wild hypothesis. Back to my friend's case, I believe that because his continuous passion about cicada or bluebird and accumulated so-called "useless" knowledge will eventually contribute to the study of our nature, and if he keeps the passion, keeps observing and keeps collecting these useless knowl.

Wildflower

Text: G10 Eta Emmie Zhang

Design: G10 Eta Amanda Jin

More often than not, I find myself trapped within swipes. I find a way to justify it all, as if a swipe could actually open myself to a grander perspective, as if peeking into a world behind the screen is equivalent to actually participating in it, as if the real reason is anything beyond unadulterated procrastination. The truth is, like any other, while a swipe comes with a dose of dopamine, a brief consolation prize away from the stack of deadlines awaiting me, it's nothing more than one more burden weighing on my conscience, one more strike on my guilt.

While that stays true, I'll concede that swipes do hold their value. I can't count the laughs I've had from a meaningless yet admittedly enjoyable short, some even seeming to be the highlights of my day, the final well-earned deep breath after a Satanist task, if you will. But the cons dramatically outweigh the pros in my case, in how I've found that a simple swipe seems to be making myself feel surreal at times.

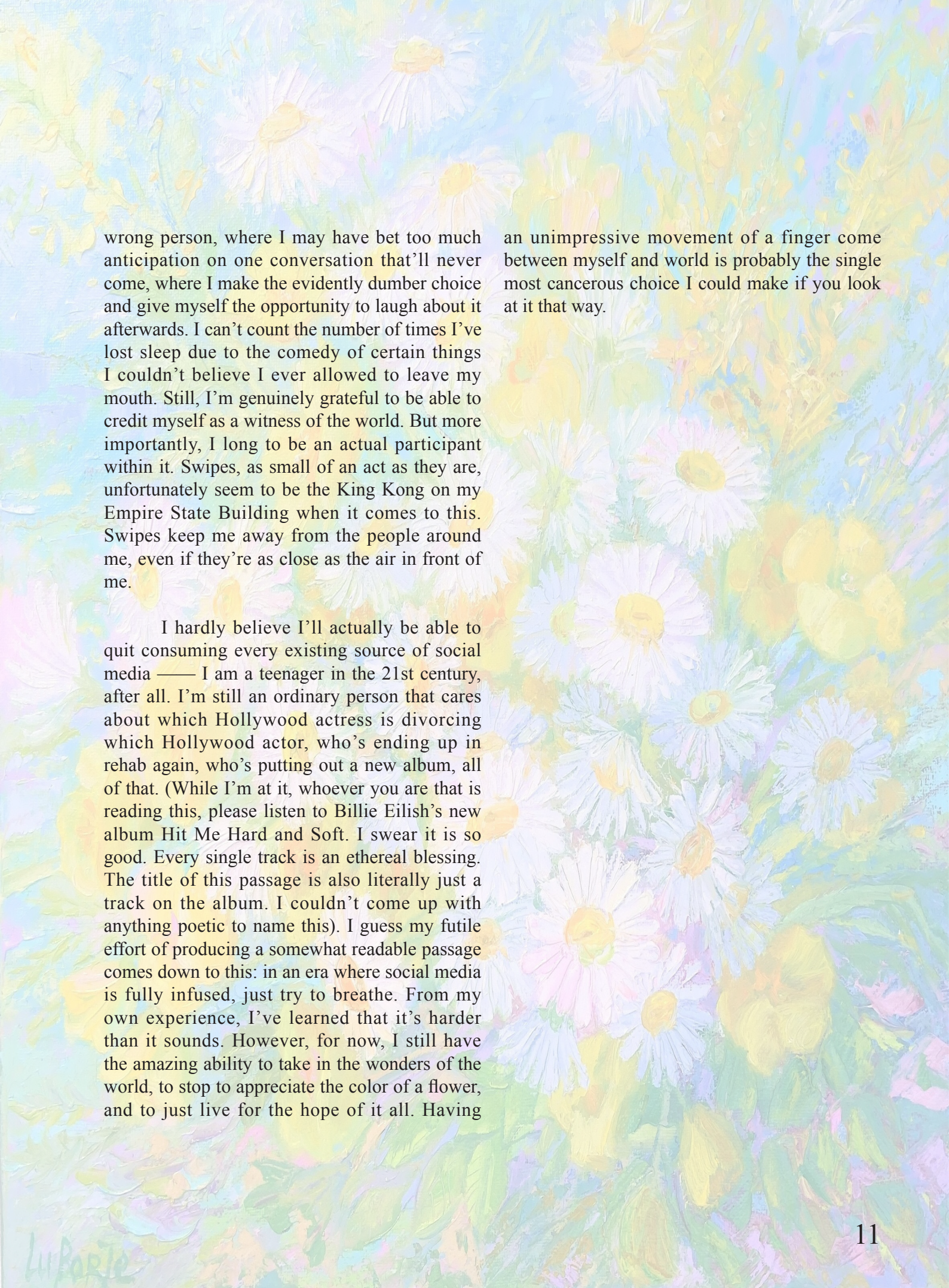
It began with a default setting of responding in a digital mindset. Finding myself within an actual predicament, my reflex was to throw a humorous trending term in the face of it and call it a day. I suppose that wasn't much of a problem, considering the worst that could happen was probably coming off as less of a sophisticated person than people originally thought (Which I'm assuming wouldn't be that sophisticated to begin with either). However, my case worsened over time, mutating into an uncontrollable habit of drawing parallels to the illusionary. Before dealing with a real life problem, my first instinct was to think "The same thing happened in that one video where..."

As time progressed, life didn't feel like life anymore. Instead, it turned into a metarealistic adaptation of consumed media, a collection of preexisting moments, a consciousness exceeding reality, and a shell of itself. It got to the point where once I was looking in the mirror, and it took me a full minute to register in my head that I was an existing human being. Not a character in a simulation or some entertainment form, but just another human.

I do suppose all this would be a warning sign, something that's knocking on the inside of my head telling me to pick up the pieces and quit this deadly nicotine. Because the truth is, I don't care if a swipe or two makes me need thicker lenses for my glasses, or even if it pulls down my GPA by a few percentages. The real issue, and the only thing I actually care about, is that those swipes are pulling me away from the thing I love the most — The world itself. Unnecessarily corny, I know, but true nonetheless.

I believe in the world. I believe that love and voices have the power to construct everything. I believe in trees and winds, birds and dances. I believe in my place in the world as well, no matter how long and how deep that should be. I believe that life should have some form of meaning, some form of devotion.

I easily see things in a spiritual lens, think that things are far more complicated than meets the eye, think people have more layers than what they say or what they do. A lot of the times that ends up being the truth, luckily enough, but I still manage to prove myself wrong from time to time. However, I thank every instance in my life where I've put my trust in the



wrong person, where I may have bet too much anticipation on one conversation that'll never come, where I make the evidently dumber choice and give myself the opportunity to laugh about it afterwards. I can't count the number of times I've lost sleep due to the comedy of certain things I couldn't believe I ever allowed to leave my mouth. Still, I'm genuinely grateful to be able to credit myself as a witness of the world. But more importantly, I long to be an actual participant within it. Swipes, as small of an act as they are, unfortunately seem to be the King Kong on my Empire State Building when it comes to this. Swipes keep me away from the people around me, even if they're as close as the air in front of me.

I hardly believe I'll actually be able to quit consuming every existing source of social media — I am a teenager in the 21st century, after all. I'm still an ordinary person that cares about which Hollywood actress is divorcing which Hollywood actor, who's ending up in rehab again, who's putting out a new album, all of that. (While I'm at it, whoever you are that is reading this, please listen to Billie Eilish's new album Hit Me Hard and Soft. I swear it is so good. Every single track is an ethereal blessing. The title of this passage is also literally just a track on the album. I couldn't come up with anything poetic to name this). I guess my futile effort of producing a somewhat readable passage comes down to this: in an era where social media is fully infused, just try to breathe. From my own experience, I've learned that it's harder than it sounds. However, for now, I still have the amazing ability to take in the wonders of the world, to stop to appreciate the color of a flower, and to just live for the hope of it all. Having

an unimpressive movement of a finger come between myself and world is probably the single most cancerous choice I could make if you look at it that way.

A Final Record

Text: G11 Delta Athena Zhou

Design: G11 Delta Finnie Chen

If you ask me when last summer ended, it's probably on the hottest day in Chaozhou. Sun scattered in parts and fragments fell apart, roasting pavements and paths. At the very center of shattered ruins, a long queue stood in silence.

"How long have we been waiting for?" An impatient voice of hair spray and sunglasses, crimson sneakers and Prada sunscreen vest. To remind me, it's my father.

I responded in mute.

The voice kept going, towards the waiter at the door, who endeavored to block every potential traverse before cooking mates got prepared to defend: "Twenty minutes we've been waiting." His beard quivered, swapping its inquiry into Cantonese.

After that, the conversation became unrecognizable. Yet I believed the time was less than a travel in a winding alley of Hong Kong: We once navigated for the best Cantonese dessert in the tip of street. That journey was probably longer than twenty minutes - around half of My Life as McDull.

When we were both younger, patience grew indefinitely long.

We marched into that restaurant.

Menu waved in air, trembling the smell of soy sauce, sesame oil, coriander leaves and garlic troops: "Shrimps and crabs, salmons and clams."

"Traditional Cantonese flavor or Japan ones?" The one previously defended the doorway came to serve. Keep the shrimp with soy sauce and

wasabi, heard myself saying.

"Pardon?"

I should have known how Mandarin metamorphosized into handicaps on the Southern shore of China. The beard, again, became the bridge.

Several minutes later, clam presented on the table.

The clam is Tegillarca Granosa. Kind of ones that if you split them into halves, their inner layer will show a crimson red, colloidal, blood like. When teeth crack onto their rough shells, the feeling resembles a vampire.

As my tongue tasted, a gecko retrieved its tail abandoned early in its life.

When did the entirety start to collapse?

Was it the day the beard grabbed me to dinner? Identical Chaozhou style cuisine, but with a woman I have never met. That curly bright brown hair gave me a box of chocolate.

I held no opinion.

"Siu ngo and lou mei. 1 One milk tea for her."

By her, he meant the curly hair. I held no opinion.

Dishes began to serve. Ice floated above, then slipping beneath. However, before the first cube could rest in the tan ocean of eternal doom, his lips gently held the very straw in front of me. My eyes stuck onto the iced milk tea, colored and stirred. His tongue has flipped through her syrups and bitters, as pages of life, a viscous entity.

Love is inherently excluding. Yours eliminated mine before I prepared to sentence it to death. I shall understand, that you won't slam a door onto her face, which almost resembled the smile of my mother. Mum used to tell me you were still good friends, overcoming quarrels and fights to a brand-new stage of life.

Are you?

Tegillarca Granosa was disgusting.

"I'm asking you to comment on the movie. We just watched it this afternoon, didn't we?"

Life was indeed intriguing, have scientists realized people time travelled while having Cantonese cuisine? I gathered my thoughts on A Guilty Conscience, about a group of righteous people, too brave and poor to fight against injustice and lure. While watching, tears have automatically concealed themselves after quarrels and fights.

I responded and unvoiced.

"How desperate I've loved you..." Voice burst out, "But you never offer me a chance." The crimson has conquered his face. Not only did the beard tremble, but his lips also trampled furiously on one another; words painted his eyes red.

Shall I?

Sweat streamed across his neck, like tears echoed the eulogy of summer halt. Those tiny drops nourished a monologue, swaying to liberate itself from my mouth.

But my upper teeth held tight to the bottom, defending the Vilcabamba of Inca. I shall not confess. How profound language is - retaining scars longer than wounds, a fall from stairs or a scissors' cut. It's a stick sharpens at both ends, penetrating the shield of mine before reaching the heart of that sorrowful man.

"It's usually very tough, to build relationship from all these." Lips travelled through syllable to syllable, advancing into a city of everlasting

storm.

Stormy eyes.

Those crimson eyes engulfed me. Same eyes I've encountered beneath K11 HK, traversing the gate of MTR, questioning my absence, roaring in despair.

"What's the point of pretending to hang out with me if all you want is to be alone?"

I could have answered, that I only left to deposit my metro card. Yet those eyes engulfed me. That's how a summer ceased at some point in my life.

"You should understand how tiring my days are." Eyes continued.

Is it a duty of mine?

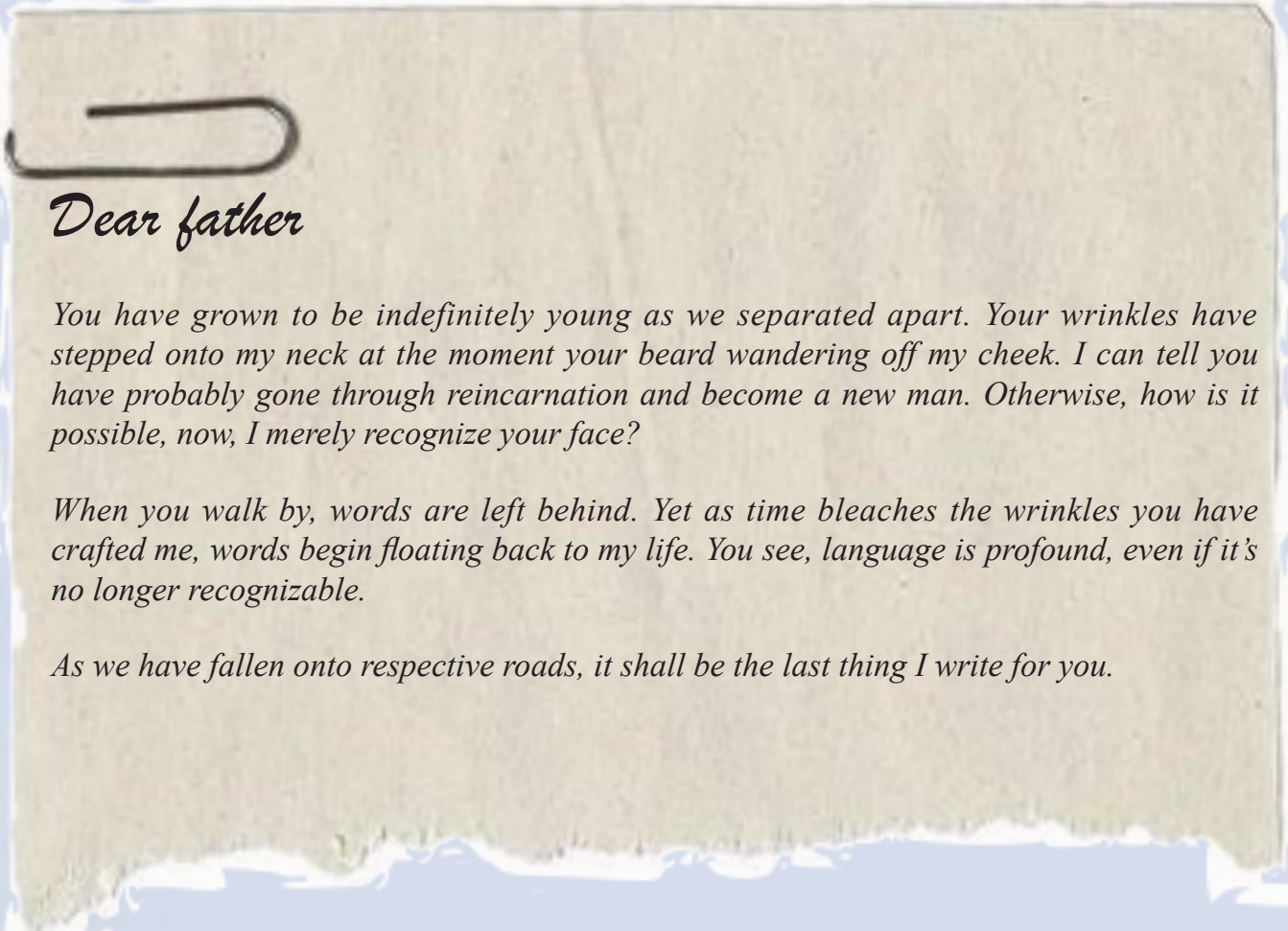
The beard shrugged: "You are my daughter and I'm your father. That's how everything works."

When Evelyn told Joy she couldn't leave her alone because she was her mother, they ended up with becoming stones.² Evelyn spoke Cantonese, cooking Cantonese noodle for her father, then travelling among spaces. Clear correlation.

"Yet our life has segmented into paths, how can I invite you into the collective memory of mine?" I whispered.

On the way back, he stopped the taxi and fled from the car. He has probably puked somewhere and lit a cig. Thus, I should write him a letter, at the time when he vomited all the love and hatred out into depressing drains.

On the way back, he stopped the taxi and fled from the car. He has probably puked somewhere and lit a cig. Thus, I should write him a letter, at the time when he vomited all the love and hatred out into depressing drains.



Dear father

You have grown to be indefinitely young as we separated apart. Your wrinkles have stepped onto my neck at the moment your beard wandering off my cheek. I can tell you have probably gone through reincarnation and become a new man. Otherwise, how is it possible, now, I merely recognize your face?

When you walk by, words are left behind. Yet as time bleaches the wrinkles you have crafted me, words begin floating back to my life. You see, language is profound, even if it's no longer recognizable.

As we have fallen onto respective roads, it shall be the last thing I write for you.

1 "Siu ngo" is roasted goose, and "lou mei" is a kind of pot-stewed fowl. Both of them are traditional Cantonese cuisines. They are written in the way that they are pronounced in Cantonese.

2 Evelyn and Joy are characters in the film "Everything Everywhere All at Once".



Enamel

Text G11 Eta Thea Zhang Design G11 Eta Thea Zhang

When a moth watches its mate perish in the flame, it still chooses to fly in.

A moth's instinct can drive an impulse, despite knowing the peril.

A human's yearning can drive an urge to act, despite knowing the risk.

The four-year-old me chose to strip off the plastic that wrapped the chocolate even when I saw my friends suffering from cavities.

Just like I chose to put my hands on the apple stickers even when I knew the consequences of stealing.

*

"You get a sticker every time you're well-behaved," the teacher said, waving a laser-cut apple-shaped sticker in her hand. "At the end of the semester, the top three students with the most stickers will receive a special prize."

Those neatly arranged stickers then became my enamel, hard and seemingly impenetrable, yet hiding the plaque of my insecurities beneath.

There was that ranking sheet on the back wall of our classroom, where each student's name bore a crooked column of stickers they had carefully built up.

"One, two, three...eight"

"Two, four, six...ten"

"Five, ten, fifteen...twenty-five"

I would count those stickers every day. All of them. I always ensured myself that I am within the top three students, which brought up my smile of satisfaction.

Until the day I found out that I was not.

I ranked fourth. Unacceptable. I needed

more stickers. I yearned for more stickers.

It felt like a scab, carefully nurtured through sheer willpower, only to be torn away by



strangers before the wound could heal, leaving me raw and exposed. I needed a bandage to cover it all. So I reached for stickers from columns that were not mine, despite knowing, just as the moths know, that peril awaits.

A moth that cannot squeak perils silently.

But the dark bacteria plaque growing from chocolate is so easy to observe, so was my theft.

"Tell everyone what you did." The teacher demanded. What hits my face is the incandescent light, the scrutinizing stares, and the piercing gleam of the laser stickers. Everything just happened too quickly. Way too quick for me to think of a proper excuse, to prepare a speech expounding my guilt. People sit there in quiet, fretting to hear from me. The quietness was as if I was captured in a broken watch with its hands frozen.

"I took your stickers." Each word a struggle to push past the lump in my throat.

Quietness was no more.

How could you expect 1st grade primary school students to empathize with a thief?

Every judgment, every whispered

condemnation throbbed, an ache from an exposed nerve.

*

"The first time the plaque attaches to the white enamel, you don't feel anything." The dentist carefully stuffed two wads of cotton into my mouth.

Yes. The initial stage feels like a false security, where everything seems normal and unproblematic. It was under this false security that I continued my daily routine of a bar of chocolate complacently.

And with that same complacency, I whispered to the two friends stood close to me .

"let's skip class". I murmured, feeling a rush of adrenaline.

"Come on, grow up." As if I was the bravest and maturest kid in kindergarten.

We made our move. Our tiny feet padded silently on the linoleum floor, and three little figures disappeared in the chaotic classroom quietly. The air outside devoid of other kids was a sedative. It numbed me momentarily from the decay within, a false sanctuary where the rot spread unnoticed. The thrill

half-success drove us darting toward the playground. We quickly reached that familiar space filled with rainbow-colored facilities. Slides, Swings, Seesaws. All were exclusively opened for us.

Grabbing the chains, I climbed onto the swing, standing up—a forbidden act under the teachers' supervision. My friends cheered me on, their laughter mingling with the creak of the swing's metal chains. I pushed off with my legs, propelling myself higher and higher. The wind rushed past my face and I felt so close to the sky. At the moment I thought I was really free.

This whole plan seemed flawless.

Of course it was not.

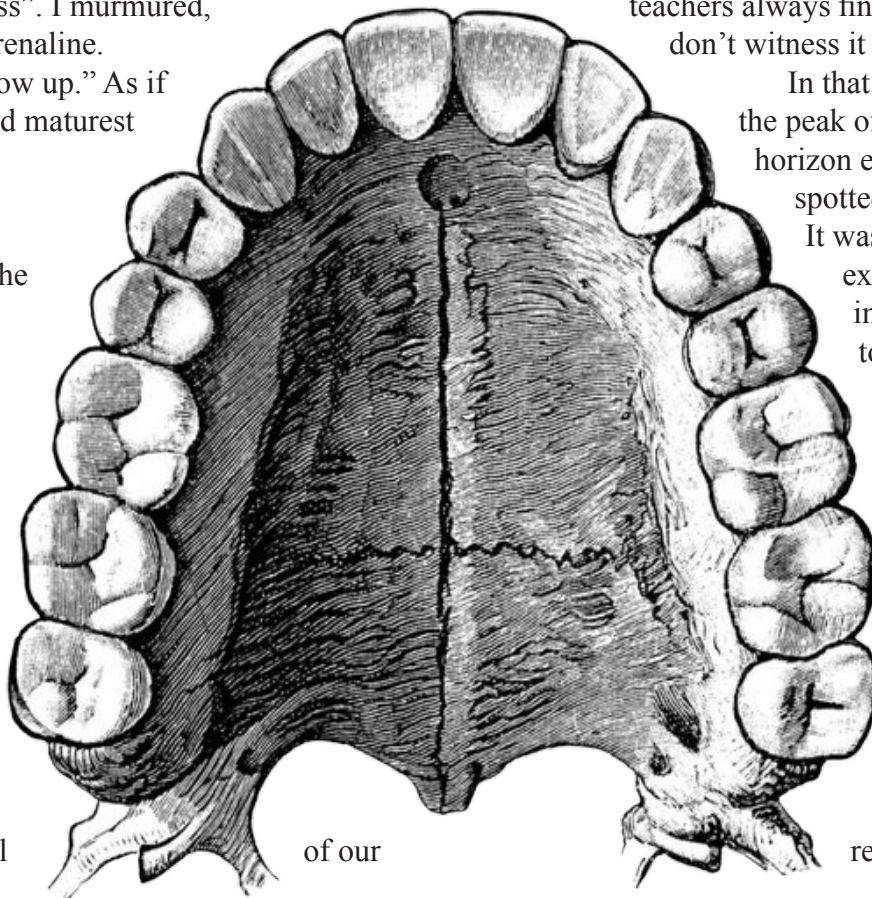
How could a four-year-old know teachers always find out, even if they don't witness it happen?

In that brief moment at the peak of my swing, my horizon expanded. Then I spotted a familiar figure.

It was Ms.Ye. All the excitement vanished in that instant. I clung to the chain to keep my limp body from collapsing until the swing stopped. The laughter died in a cold wave of dread.

"Zhang Hanxian , what do you think you are doing?" Ms.Ye demanded.

I couldn't respond.



of our



silent sting of every exposed flaw. That's what public humiliation feels like.

Ms. Ye pointed to a spot in the middle of the nap room. "Stand there. Everyone needs to see what happens when you break the rules," she declared.

I followed, and I remained rooted. The room now felt eerily silent. Other kids' eyes lingered on me, some with pity, others with smug satisfaction. Those ran away with me closed their eyes, pretending that they didn't see anything.

The heavy curtains already blocked out most of the sun, leaving only a faint light in the room. Yet I was so explicitly exposed, being watched, judged, a rotting tooth assessed under blinding blue light.

Ms. Ye seemed to be saying something to everyone, but my mind was in disarray. A layer of paper veiled my thoughts; the downpour of her words couldn't penetrate, but the paper quivered, under the weight of each drop.

I didn't respond. My thoughts drifted aimlessly, desperately searching for excuses, reasons, and explanations.

But the teacher didn't want to listen to that. I had no chance to speak until I was singled out and put in front of everyone during the routine lunch break.

"Zhang Hanxian has something to confess. Everyone Listen."

The pretense that had been conceived seemed so foolish at this moment. "I led my friends to skip class and hide in the playground." I tried to disclose this unspeakable truth using the most relaxed tone. But the fragile calm of my self-deception was shattered by the eruption of whispers and muffled giggles.

*

"**B**efore the bacteria start eating your nerves, the very initial pain that cavities may just be the shame of that unsightly black plague when your mouth opens and closes. The

*

The model on the dentist's desk demonstrates the four stages of tooth decay. I squinted hard to see it clear.

Yet I could barely see the details, only the spreading dark plaque.

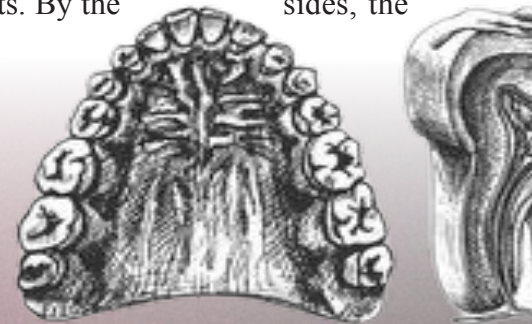
The dentist adjusted the light, positioning it vertically above my head. Failed to focalize any bright diodes, I only felt scratches of firing left on my face.

The light was as blinding as it was on the day of Grandma's funeral.

Mom said that the ceremony was meant to be held on a cloudy day.

But how could you call this a cloudy day?

The sky was indeed overcast by dense clouds, yet lights flickered everywhere I stood. Swollen fingers of strange middle-aged women stroked back and forth in the air, their deformed golden rings casting erratic glints. By the sides, the



From the chaotic mix of noise, came a sudden, broken sob, and it wasn't until the tip of my nose tickled that I realized they were my own tears

I didn't know why I cried. My thoughts, patches of plaque, spread uncontrollably, hard to remove and growing with every passing moment as I tried hard to concentrate and figure out the trigger behind my tear gland

But then the applause erupted.

Who the fuck would clap this hard at a funeral?

"Look at how filial is this young kid!" Then I realized that the applause was for me.

The 2,500-year-old Confucius doctrine “孝悌也者，其为仁之本欤” (filial piety and fraternal duty are the foundation of benevolence) became the firm belief for Chinese generations over generations. Filial piety was regarded as the essence of benevolence, and almost every Chinese parent yearned for a child who embodied this ideal.

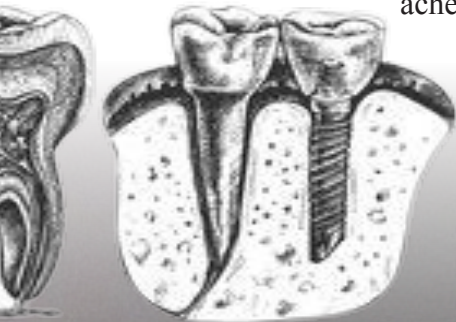
My just-right tear was, of course, interpreted as an indication of my filial piety.

Strangers, one after another, joined the preposterous praise to celebrate my supposed deep love for my grandmother, but only I knew that my tears weren't for her death. They were a tribute to the overwhelming people, noise, and confusion.

*

"The final stage of tooth decay occurs when bacteria infiltrate the nerves, destroying the endodontium entirely." The doctor lifted the model of caries, pointing to the one tooth that had completely lost its crown. "At this stage, again, you barely feel anything."

Mom quietly wiped away the tears from my cheeks, my body quivering slightly. The pain inside is numb and seemingly indifferent. Yet the slightest ache emerges with a subtle



breeze.

The sound of applause gradually lost its strength, but the waves of my internal tumult continued to crash softly, pulling me under. It was a quiet torment, an itch that couldn't be scratched, a discomfort that lingered just beneath the surface.

I felt adrift in a sea of chaos, the weight of false understanding gently drawing me deeper, away from the surface where I could breathe freely.

*

The sensory overload of the funeral made me close my eyes tight, and I could feel my body shaking.

"Relaxed. It's almost finished. You won't feel pain anymore" The dentist is now working on the filling.

The harsh, sterile light above me blurred into a halo as I tried to focus on anything but the invasive sensation of the tools in my mouth. Each scrape was so mechanical, yet strangely intimate.

His tools clinked one last time as he finished the process, sealing the decay beneath a smooth, artificial surface. Then I sat up, running my tongue over the unfamiliar texture. It tasted a little bitter.

I knew some pain lingers, somewhat transformed.

Just out of sight.

*



To the Lighthouse

Text: G10 Gamma Joshua Ma
Design: G10 Kappa Olivia Tang

I won't fall I won't sleep
As I will fall in too deep
Standing on the edge of sea,
Everywhere is noisy
Everyone is uneasy
Let's go to the other side of the lighthouse
Let's go to the other side of the lighthouse
Where we can find a shelter!
Blue eyes shining in drizzling hills;
Catching the breeze and winter chills
I feel like I am drawing,
I feel like I am blowing
Let's go to the other side of the lighthouse!
I hear them laughing
I hear them leaving
In the purple haze clouds swirling,
Let's go to the lighthouse!

03 Journal

The Impacts of **Short Videos** on the Modern Way of Life

Phones. More important than food, water, or air. After all, what is life without Bilibili and TikTok, the contents of which define our mood of the day? The videos we swipe through average around a minute. A minute of dopamine injection, taken in dozens per serving, and their only purpose is to keep you entertained, just so you would swipe down to the next video.

However, ask yourself this: what would you do if you ever come across a longer video, say a 15-minute book recommendation video? You don't have to answer the question now. Drop the article if you like, pick up your phone, open TikTok, Bilibili, YouTube Shorts, or whatever app you use for entertainment, and swipe around. I will guarantee you that it would be at least 20 minutes before you remember that you ever started this article, and that 20 minutes would be split into watching 10 different videos. If I just read your mind like Obi-Wan Kenobi, don't be surprised; that's exactly what I would do in your shoes.

But people weren't always like this; phones weren't always another organ of ours, YouTube wasn't always an extension of my brain, and our eyes weren't always nailed to our screens. Starting from the early 2000s, however, with the rise of social media and the prevalence of home and personal electronics, communicating on the internet became a norm.

Author: G10 Kappa tony Liu

Editor: G11 Eta Thea Zhang





“Sure, swipe away on your phone,
but try not to swipe away your life”

In a matter of years, Reddit (perhaps better known in China as the platform for transmitting leaked IB answer keys) popped up, the blue bird of Twitter took flight and started singing, and Instagram joined the party as well in 2010. They kick-started the lifestyle of sharing experiences, but it was Vine, an American short-form video hosting service allowing for 10-second clips, that started the trend of short videos. Vine made it significantly easier for users to create, view, and share short, looping videos from their smartphones without massive budgets, expensive gadgets, or any professional knowledge of photography. Soon, Instagram and Facebook followed suit, with celebrities and influencers also getting aboard HMS Short-Video, bound for the future.

In August 2014, Musical.ly appeared, and it would later prove to kill the match. Through this app, users could create 15-second to 1-minute videos and select music tracks to accompany them; combined with unique built-in editing options and social connection features, it quickly gained popularity in the United States and had over 200 million users globally by the end of May 2017. That was when ByteDance Ltd acquired the app, and turned it into the famous TikTok. That's right, the very TikTok that got roasted in the American Congress got its first bucket of gold in the American market. I suppose the rest of the story is very familiar to you: TikTok quickly won the market with its ingenious content creators, and other platforms followed suit, giving birth to Instagram Reels, Snapchat Spotlight, and YouTube Shorts. Nowadays, everybody from the most anonymous gamer to the richest influencer Mr. Beast is posting 1-minute-long videos for you and me to swipe through. All the fun in the world, just a swipe away. Imagine that.

Here I was, thinking about where I could take this article to next. Then I took my phone to the bathroom, plugged in my earphones, sat on the toilet, and swiped through video after video on Bilibili. I spent ten minutes on that stall, just sitting and swiping, while the real business was done in the first thirty seconds. I came back, sat at my seat, stared at my poorly written, 600-word

essay, and realized that I had forgotten most of what I watched in the bathroom. I remember a fellow talking about bad a new game was, a ten-second clip of some badminton match, a 30-second tutorial for French Toast, and nothing else.

Three pieces of information in ten minutes. I could learn much more and much deeper in a much more pleasant environment reading a book, but I didn't. Instead, I sat in a poorly air-conditioned WLSA bathroom on the first floor, and swiped on my phone. In fact, I don't think I read anything out of my own interest in the past 6 months. If you are the same as me, then congratulations, we are all suffering from the drawbacks of short videos and the fast-paced modern life.

Hardly anybody has patience for time-consuming entertainment nowadays. If you used to play the piano, when was the last time you properly trained yourself to play a piece of sheet music? When was the last time you chose a full-length movie or TV show over the three-minute summaries on TikTok delivered by robot voices? When was the last time you picked up your phone and not swiped through short videos? For me, the answer to the first and last question would be: a long time ago; dinosaurs were probably around back then. For the second question, fortunately I just finished an episode of Better Call Saul Season 3 with my friend, without fast-forwarding or skipping ahead. Truth be told, the only reason why I didn't take the easy way of watching three-minute summaries is that I loved Better Call Saul. In fact, just as the Beatles put it, "Love is All You Need" when you want to combat the temptations of swiping through short videos.





We all need reasons to do things. The accessibility of short videos is a helluva reason, but if you want to achieve something greater than Best Short Video Viewer of the Year, remember that love is always a more powerful reason. For my love of the Britpop band Oasis, I learned to play the guitar in a month, practicing day and night and leaving everything behind; short videos were but undesirable distractions. Take it from me: if a serious electronic addict like me can learn cords and a couple of pop songs in a month without being pestered by short videos, so can you achieve something greater with your passion for life.

Sure, swipe away on your phone, we all do it and love it, but try not to swipe away your life; you deserve much better.

04 Science

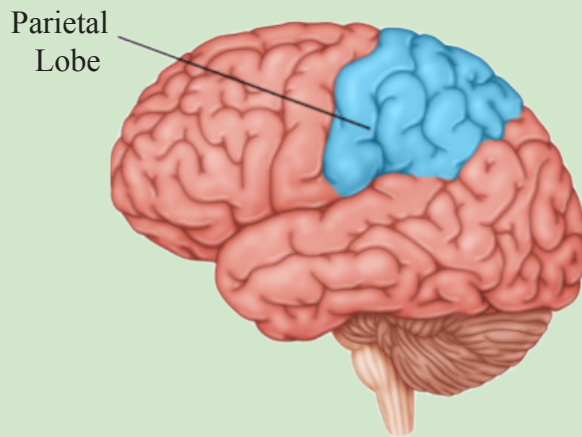
The Present Day Research about Parietal Lobe and Its Application

Text: G12 Cynthia Chen

Design: G11 Finnie Chen

About one-fourth of each hemisphere of our brains are occupied by the parietal lobe, which has two main roles: one is for sensation and perception, and the other is for the integration and interpretation of sensory information. Thus, the parietal lobe is responsible for combining sensory information to create a single perception and for creating a spatial coordinate system to reflect our reality. If the parietal lobe is injured, there are many different clinical symptoms, such as the inability to comprehend spatial relationships. Nevertheless, recent studies have discovered some connections between parietal lobe function -ing alterations and Alzheimer's disease, which can be used for future treatment of this disease.

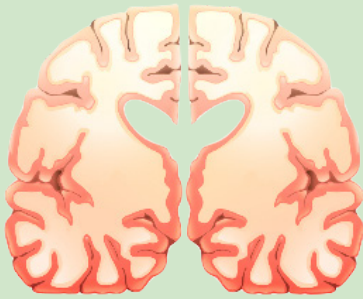
According to the researchers at the University of Oulu, Alzheimer's patients have different cerebral artery pulsations that maintain the brain's cleaning system. Alzheimer disease is a common neurodegenerative disease, but there is no known treatment for this disease, only several medications have been invented to lessen the symptoms or to temporarily slow down the progression. However, A significant breakthrough was made in the study of Alzheimer's disease due to the contribution of the researchers at the University of Oulu. In previous studies, it is typically believed that Alzheimer's disease associates mostly with the hippocampus. However, new studies show that this disease also closely connects with the parietal lobe. Significant pulsation alterations were discovered particularly in the regions of the brain connected to memory functioning. "In certain parts of the brain, including the hippocampus and parietal lobes, the direction of propagation of pulse waves was reversed compared to healthy



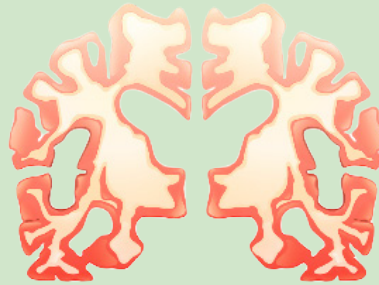
individuals. These parts of the brain play a major role in memory functions," says Zalán Rajna, who is head researcher of the study. The glymphatic system's job is to remove the waste from the brain, and the system mostly functions during deep sleep. If this cleaning system is disrupted, waste material begins to build up in the brain and causes early brain aging. Beta-amyloids and tau proteins are two specific waste products that build up in the brain in Alzheimer's disease, and they cause the brain to degenerate, which impairs memory and information processing. According to the studies, harmful amyloid plaque will develop around the cerebral arteries as well as the brain tissue in Alzheimer's disease, and those arteries and tissues will become harder.

The new discovery is critical for comprehending the dynamic brain processes that cause Alzheimer's disease and, in the long run, for further prevention and therapy. Due to the association with the parietal lobe, the treatment for Alzheimer's disease can be enlarged to this area. There was an actual case that proves the accuracy of this research. Nanette Miller, a hospital nurse for 33 years, was diagnosed as early onset Alzheimer's disease.

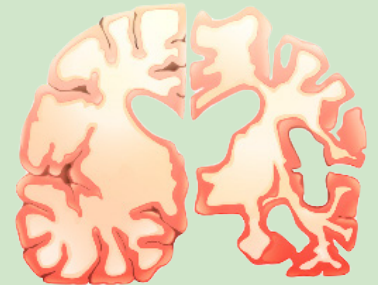
Alzheimer's Disease



Healthy Brain



**Mild Alzheimer's
Disease**



**Severe Alzheimer's
Disease**

Researchers were hoping to remove plaques and alleviate Miller's symptoms by breaking down the blood-brain barrier, which separates the bloodstream from brain tissue while preventing drugs, immunotherapy, gene therapy, and other therapies from entering the brain. This method actually work, and Miller was already on her road to recovery in less than a year after the treatment. It was the first surgery that opened the hippocampus blood-brain barrier in Alzheimer's patients, and with the new discovery, I believe the treatment for this disease will be more efficient, rather than just slowing down the progress. Soon or later, hopefully there will be an actual cure for the Alzheimer's disease.

To sum up, as a common neurodegenerative, Alzheimer's disease was previously considered only to have association with the hippocampus. However, new research discovered that it actually has connections with the parietal lobe, which provides new directions for further treatment for the disease. By breaking down the blood-brain barrier and separates the bloodstream from brain tissue in the parietal lobe, Alzheimer's patient can drive on the road of recovery instead of just lessening the symptoms. In the future, this new discovery could lead to more advanced treatment for the Alzheimer's disease.

Knipe Henry. Alzheimer Disease. June 2022. <https://radiopaedia.org/articles/alzheimer-disease-1>

Shahab Shahid MBBS, Parietal lobe, <https://www.kenhub.com/en/library/anatomy/parietal-lobe>.

University of Oulu. Pulsations driving the brain's cleaning system completely different in patients with Alzheimer's disease. May 2021. <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2021-05-pulsations-brain-patients-alzheimer-disease.html>

West Virginia University. WVU expands pioneering Alzheimer's treatment to wider region of the brain. Aug 2020. <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2020-08-wvu-alzheimer-treatment-wider-region.html>

Embodied Cognition Perspective. Perspectives on Psychological Science, vol. 10, no. 6, [Association for Psychological Science, Sage Publications, Inc.], 2015, pp. 852–64, <http://www.jstor.org/stable/44281956>



A Changing Economic Order: The U.S.-China Trade War

By G11 Epsilon Lisa Shao
Design by G10 Eta Carol Dong

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Changing Economic Order

Despite the fact that the United States has been the world's largest economy for over a century, the output gap between the U.S. and the world's second-largest economy, China, is rapidly narrowing. Owing to sustained high growth rates, China's GDP ballooned from \$1.47 trillion in 2002 to \$17.88 trillion in 2022 (Figure 1)¹. Over this period, the ratio of China's GDP to the U.S.' increased from 13% to 71% (Figure 2)².

China has contemporaneously emerged as a key geopolitical player, leveraging economic status and its position as the root of the global

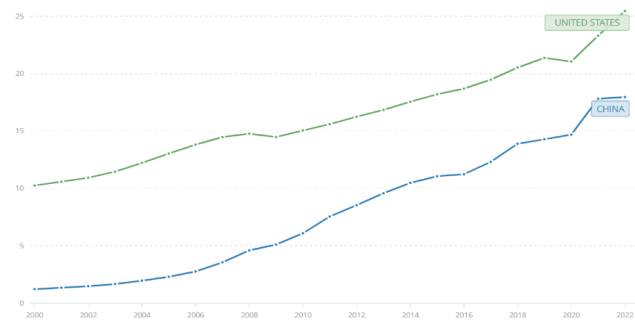


Figure 1. GDP of China and the United States (current US\$, trillion; 2000-2022); Source of figure: World Bank, 2023.¹

Year	China's GDP	World Share%	United States' GDP	World Share%	China/U.S. Ratio
2002	1.47	4.14%	10.94	30.75%	13%
2007	3.55	5.74%	14.45	23.37%	25%
2012	8.53	11.32%	16.2	21.49%	53%
2017	12.31	15.16%	19.54	24.07%	63%
2022	17.88	17.61%	25.44	25.05%	71%

Figure 2. GDP of China and the U.S. (current US\$, Trillion; every five years from 2002 to 2022); The Global GDP Share (percentage; 2002-2022) of China and the US; Source of figure: The author's own calculations according to data from the World Bank, 2023.²

¹ World Bank Open Data. 2023. World Bank. <https://data.worldbank.org/>.

² The China/U.S. Ratio can be a more intuitive way to present China's growth, especially its increasing power from the perspective of the United States. Therefore, self calculation is done here.

supply chain to expansively exert soft power through initiatives such as ‘Belt and Road’¹, and hard power through militarization. Coupled with differences in political ideology between the two states, China has thus emerged as a threat to U.S. hegemony. Consequently, the U.S. has moved to introduce trade restrictions in an effort to diminish China’s economic power, and, in tandem, its geopolitical reach. In this essay, I examine three such restrictions: tariffs, investment restrictions, and semiconductor regulations, underlining their counterproductivity and the need for cooperation moving forward.

2. POLICIES FOR THE SINO-US TRADE WAR

2.1 The Goals of the War

In line with his “America First” principle, former U.S. president Donald Trump set out three clear objectives for trade policy: (1) to eliminate the trade deficit with China; (2) to reduce the dependence on China’s supply chain and prevent China’s industrial advancement; and (3) to bring industry and jobs, especially in manufacturing, back so as to increase local employment².

2.2 Tariff Restrictions

Since 2015, China has been the largest trading partner of the United States³ and has, due to its comparative advantage in manufacturing, imposed a large current account deficit on the U.S. (Figure 3)⁴. In March 2018, to address this imbalance and “Make America Great Again”⁵, the Trump administration initiated a ‘tariff war’ against China. The theoretical effects of tariffs are shown in Figure 4⁶ - a substantial fall in domestic output, and sizable deadweight loss (pale green and red regions).

Indeed, Trump imposed a total of US\$50 billion worth of tariffs on imports from China, including tariffs of 30% on imported solar panels,

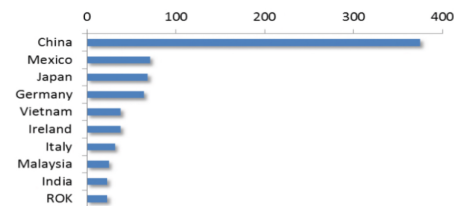


Figure 3. U.S. Trade Deficit in 2017, the year just before the U.S.-China trade war (\$ Billion). Source of figure: U.S. Census Bureau.⁶

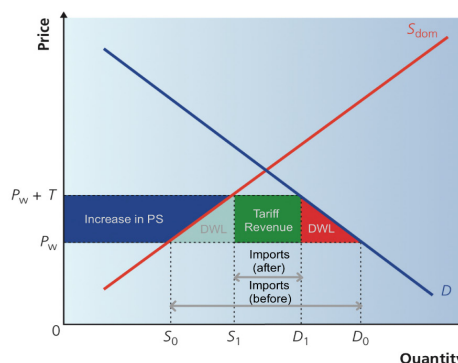


Figure 4. The Effect of Tariffs.

Source of figure: Cambridge International AS and A Level Economics Second Edition, Smith P., Wilby A. and Zasheva M., 2021.⁸

20% on washing machines, 25% on steel and 10% on aluminum.¹ Subsequently, the Office of the United States Trade Representative published two sanctions lists, placing a total of ~1500 products under a 25% additional tax rate. China, in retaliation, levied a 25% tariff on \$34 billion of U.S. exports on July 6th and another \$16 billion on August 23rd.² As the war progressed, the range of tariffed products expanded - from primary metals and agricultural products, to aircraft parts and automobiles.³ Most of the trade restrictions introduced under Trump remain under Biden.⁴

2.3 Investment Restrictions

On May 15, 2019, the U.S. went a step further, severely restricting the ability of U.S. companies to conduct business with an Entity List of ~1200 Chinese telecommunications companies.⁵ This occurred in response to China’s industrial master-plan ‘Made in China 2025’, which articulated its transition path from

1 ‘The Belt and Road Initiative’ stimulates economic development in Asia, Europe and Africa, including policy dialogue, unimpeded trade, financial support and people-to-people exchange. See Huang, Yiping. “Understanding China’s Belt & Road initiative: motivation, framework and assessment.” *China Economic Review* 40 (2016): 314-321. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chieco.2016.07.007>.

2 Zhang, Yuhan. “The US–China Trade War: A Political and Economic Analysis.” *Indian Journal of Asian Affairs* 31, no. 1/2 (2018): 53–74. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/26608823>.

3 Steinbock, Dan. “US-China trade war and its global impacts.” *China Quarterly of International Strategic Studies* 4, no. 04 (2018): 515-542. <https://doi.org/10.1142/S2377740018500318>.

4 U.S. Census Bureau. <https://www.census.gov>.

5 Edwards, Jason A. “Make America great again: Donald Trump and redefining the US role in the world.” *Communication Quarterly* 66, no. 2 (2018): 176-195. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01463373.2018.1438485>.

6 Smith, Peter, Adam Wilby, and Mila Zasheva. *Cambridge International AS and A Level Economics Second Edition*. Hachette UK, 2021.

1 Kapustina, Larisa, Ludmila Lipková, Yakov Silin, and Andrei Drevalov. “US-China trade war: Causes and outcomes.” In *SHS Web of Conferences*, vol. 73, p. 01012. EDP Sciences, 2020. <https://doi.org/10.1051/shsconf/20207301012>.

2 Steinbock, Dan. “US-China trade war and its global impacts.” *China Quarterly of International Strategic Studies* 4, no. 04 (2018): 515-542. <https://doi.org/10.1142/S2377740018500318>.

3 Boylan, Brandon M., Jerry McBeath, and Bo Wang. “US–China relations: Nationalism, the trade war, and COVID-19.” *Fudan Journal of the Humanities and Social Sciences* 14 (2021): 23-40. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40647-020-00302-6>.

4 Bacchus, James. “Biden and Trade at Year One: The Reign of Polite Protectionism.” *Cato Institute*, 2022. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/resrep40430>.

5 Pagano, Jacob Aaron. “Contrary to National Security: The Rise of the Entity List in US Policy towards China and Its Role in the National Security Administrative State.” *Colum. J. Transnat’l L.* 61 (2023): 453. <https://heinonline.org/>.

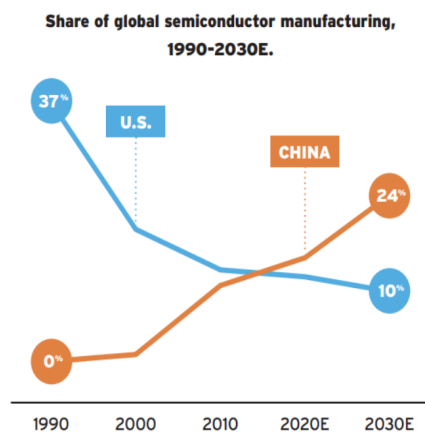


Figure 5. Share of global semiconductor manufacturing (1990-2023E).

Source of figure: Semiconductor Industry Association.¹⁹

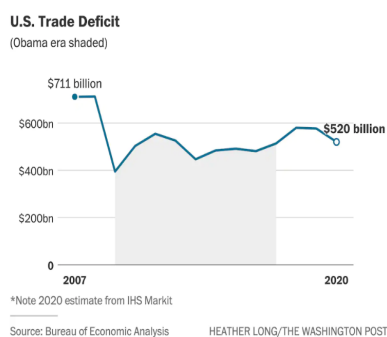


Figure 6. The U.S. Trade Deficit (2007-2020). Source of figure: Bureau of Economic Analysis.²²

low-cost to elaborately-transformed goods manufacturing, and involved the rejection of M&A proposals and the barring of scientific researchers from entering the U.S..¹²

2.4 Semiconductors

In August 2023, an executive order entitled ‘Investment Restrictions on China’ specifically limited U.S. investment in China’s semiconductor industry.[Spiegelman, Margaret, and INSIDE US TRADE. “President Biden Issues Executive Order Restricting Outbound Investment in National Security Technologies and Products.” *American Journal of International Law* 117, no. 4 (2023): 713-18. doi:10.1017/ajil.2023.51.] Since the original invention of semiconductors in America, the semiconductor industry has been a key driving factor for America’s economic strength, national security infrastructure, and technological leadership. Consequently, semiconductors were among the earliest Chinese

exports targeted with 25% tariffs in 2018[Bown, Chad P. “How the United States marched the semiconductor industry into its trade war with China.” *East Asian Economic Review* 24, no. 4 (2020): 349-388. <https://dx.doi.org/10.11644/KIEP.EAER.2020.24.4.384>]. Moreover, to address the decline in manufacturing of these chips (from 37% in 1990 to 12% in 2020, [Figure 5]¹), and the offshoring of fabrication facilities, the CHIPS Act (2022) also included substantial producer subsidies.²

3. IMPACT OF THE POLICIES ON LOCAL WORKERS, CONSUMERS AND FIRMS

Admittedly, some of Washington’s goals - reducing dependency on China’s supply chain, increasing bargaining power in trade negotiations, and addressing semiconductor-related security concerns - have seemingly been achieved, but not without meaningful failures in other targets. The overall U.S. trade deficit in 2018 was the largest in a decade³ (Figure 6)⁴, and the narrowed deficit with China in 2019 was offset by the increase with the rest of the world⁵; 245,000 jobs were lost in 2021⁶; and because of high tariffs, U.S. consumers and producers were estimated to have lost \$68.8 billion (0.37% of GDP) by the end of 2018, leading to an aggregate welfare loss of \$7.8 billion (0.04% of GDP) and real household income reduction of approx. \$675 each.⁷ On the other side of the coin, Oxford Economics estimates (2021) that China’s GDP was reduced by ~1.0% as a result of the dispute. Therefore, U.S. consumers, workers, and firms, along with their Chinese counterparts, have all been negatively affected by the continued tension between the two countries.⁸

3.1 Consumers

The impact of the trade war on consumers

¹ Semiconductor Industry Association. “The 2023 SIA Factbook: Your Source for Semiconductor Industry Data.” U.S. SEMICONDUCTOR LEADERSHIP. <https://www.semiconductors.org>.

² Peters, Michael A. “Semiconductors, geopolitics and technological rivalry: the US CHIPS & Science Act, 2022.” *Educational Philosophy and Theory* (2022): 1-5. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00131857.2022.2124914>.

³ Pettis, Michael. 2021. “How Trump’s Tariffs Really Affected the U.S. Job Market.” *Carnegie Endowment For International Peace*. <https://carnegieendowment.org/chinafinancialmarkets/83746>.

⁴ Bureau of Economic Analysis. <https://www.bea.gov/>.

⁵ The U.S.-China Business Council (USCBC). <https://www.uschina.org/>.

⁶ Also from: The U.S.-China Business Council (USCBC). <https://www.uschina.org/>.

⁷ Amity, Mary, Stephen J. Redding, and David E. Weinstein. 2019. “The Impact of the 2018 Tariffs on Prices and Welfare.” *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 33 (4): 187-210. DOI: 10.1257/jep.33.4.187.

⁸ “The US-China Economic Relationship.” *Oxford Economics* (2021).

¹ Wübbecke, Jost, Mirjam Meissner, Max J. Zenglein, Jaqueline Ives, and Björn Conrad. “Made in China 2025.” *Mercator Institute for China Studies. Papers on China* 2, no. 74 (2016): 4.

² Hao, Yu. 2020. Research on the US Restrictive Policy on China’s Technology Industry during the Trump Administration: A Case Study of Huawei. *Aalborg Universitet*. https://kbdk-aub.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/45KBDK_AUB/a7me0f/alma9921569080305762.

mainly derives from the rising prices of both imports and domestic products due to tariffs. For instance, washing machines, one of the earliest commodities covered by tariffs, were estimated to experience a 12% price increase in 2018¹. Per Figure 7, import prices typically rose “from 10 to 30 percent in the wake of tariffs.”²

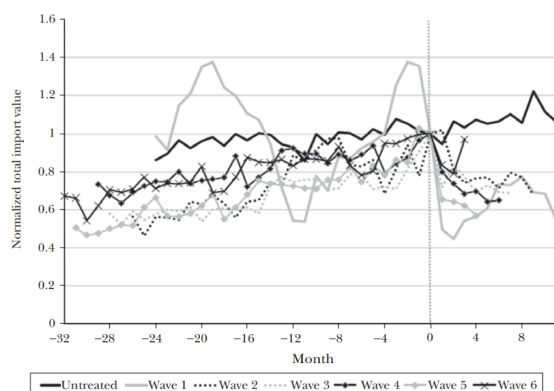


Figure 7. Twelve-Month Proportional Change in Import Prices by Tariff Wave.

Source of figure: Calculated by Amiti, Redding and Weinstein, 2019.²⁸

In addition, being protected from foreign competition and facing increased costs themselves, U.S. producers raised prices. For the average firm that imports 15% of its variable costs, a 10% higher input tariff caused it to raise its own prices by 2.9%.³ Hence, an estimation for the combined effects of input and output tariffs showed a 1% rise in the average price of US manufacturing, strikingly considerable compared with an annual average rate of producer price inflation from 1990 to 2018 of just over 2 percentage points.⁴

3.2 Firms

Although the trade war enabled U.S.’s supply chain to partially shift to Southeast-Asia, tariffs through 2018 and 2019 ended up costing companies \$1.7 trillion in market capitalization and are estimated to have reduced investment growth by 1.9 percentage points in 2020⁵. U.S. firms directly exposed to supply chain linkages with China, such as those in auto-manufacturing

and electronics, were most affected. However, the economic impact of tariffs on firms was more broad-ranging, with Amiti, Redding and Weinstein (2019) estimating that ‘a 1 percent increase in foreign tariffs was associated with a 3.9 percent decline in the value of US exports’, and that retaliatory tariffs were costing approx. \$2.4bn per month in lost exports.¹ Key exporters in agriculture (e.g. Bunge and ADM) explicitly noted trade-war losses in their annual reports.² Apart from declining export sales, American companies also lost customers in China because of nationalistic appeals to boycott products of American companies, including Apple, McDonald’s and KFC.³

3.3 Workers

In 2018, 197,000 U.S. workers were directly employed by Chinese multinational firms, and 1.2 million jobs were supported by exports to China in 2019. Because of the trade war, a peak estimated loss of 245,000 jobs was reported by USCBC, together with projections of losses of 732,000 jobs in 2022 and 320,000 jobs in 2025 if tariffs remained.⁴ An interquartile increase in the exposure to tariffs is found to bring a 1.4% reduction in manufacturing employment, with the positive effect of a 0.3% increase from the import protection offset by the negative effects associated with rising input costs (-1.1%) and retaliatory tariffs (-0.7%).⁵ Per the investigation below, total employment in manufacturing stalled in 2019 and sharp decreases in retail trade and machinery manufacturing are observed.⁶⁷ Concurrently, employment in semiconductor manufacturing did grow steadily, aided by over \$166 billion in investments by companies and new or expanded industry programs in community colleges that increased employment.⁸

1 Flaaen, Aaron, Ali Hortaçsu, and Felix Tintelnot. “The production relocation and price effects of US trade policy: the case of washing machines.” *American Economic Review* 110, no. 7 (2020): 2103-2127. <https://www.aeaweb.org/articles?id=10.1257/aer.20190611>.

2 Amiti, Mary, Stephen J. Redding, and David E. Weinstein. 2019. “The Impact of the 2018 Tariffs on Prices and Welfare.” *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 33 (4): 187-210. DOI: 10.1257/jep.33.4.187.

3 Amiti, Mary, Stephen J. Redding, and David E. Weinstein. 2019. “The Impact of the 2018 Tariffs on Prices and Welfare.” *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 33 (4): 187-210. DOI: 10.1257/jep.33.4.187.

4 Also from Amiti, Mary, Stephen J. Redding, and David E. Weinstein. 2019. “The Impact of the 2018 Tariffs on Prices and Welfare.” *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 33 (4): 187-210. DOI: 10.1257/jep.33.4.187.

5 Amiti, Mary, Sang Hoon Kong, and David Weinstein. The effect of the US-China trade war on US investment. No. w27114. National Bureau of Economic Research, 2020. <https://www.nber.org/papers/w27114>.

1 Amiti, Mary, Stephen J. Redding, and David E. Weinstein. 2019. “The Impact of the 2018 Tariffs on Prices and Welfare.” *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 33 (4): 187-210. DOI: 10.1257/jep.33.4.187.

2 <https://investors.bunge.com/investors/financial-information/annual-reports/> and <https://investors.adm.com/financials/annual-reports/default.aspx>.

3 Kapustina, Larisa, Ludmila Lipkova, Yakov Silin, and Andrei Drevalov. “US-China trade war: Causes and outcomes.” In *SHS Web of Conferences*, vol. 73, p. 01012. EDP Sciences, 2020. <https://doi.org/10.1051/shsconf/20207301012>.

4 The U.S.-China Business Council (USCBC). <https://www.uschina.org/>.

5 Flaaen, Aaron, and Justin R. Pierce. “Disentangling the Effects of the 2018-2019 Tariffs on a Globally Connected U.S. Manufacturing Sector.” *FEDS Working Paper*, no. 2019-86. <http://dx.doi.org/10.17016/FEDS.2019.086>.

6 These self-made figures help illustrate the impact of the trade war, especially the tariffs and semiconductor regulations, on relevant industries with high exposure to policies.

7 U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. <https://www.bls.gov/ces/data/employment-and-earnings/>.

8 See The White House (2023). “Statement from President Joe Biden on the One Year Anniversary of the CHIPS and Science Act”.

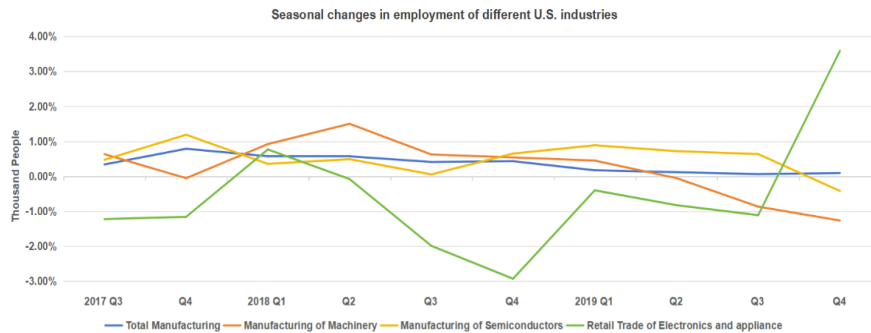


Figure 8. Seasonal Change in Employment in different U.S. industries (from May 2017 to December 2019; Thousand People). Source of figure: The author’s own investigation³⁷, based on data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics³⁸.

4. THE WAY FORWARD

There are two clear facts that we can establish as a result of the assessment above:

1. China’s position in the international order will not change in the short or medium term.
2. The policies pursued to date have led to mostly undesirable outcomes for both the Chinese and American economies.

As a result, I suggest tariff removal in security-irrelevant industries with the maintenance of tariffs on politically sensitive items (e.g. semiconductors). A moderate rollback of the tariffs to 12% is estimated to bring an additional \$160 billion in real GDP to the U.S. economy over the next

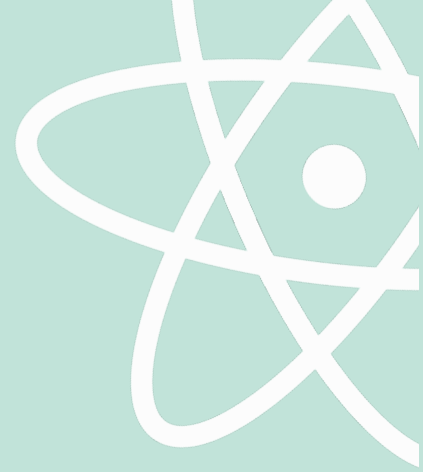
five years and create an additional 145,000 jobs by 2025¹. This would be partly in line with a commitment by both states through the WTO to reduce trade barriers, and maintain protections on critical security infrastructure that the U.S. seeks to protect. Such measures would de-escalate tensions, paving the way for greater regional cooperation on issues of mutual interest and benefit domestic stakeholders. Moreover, it would allow the U.S. to continue providing incentives for firms that would strengthen domestic supply chains. This would permit it both to leverage the nations’ respective comparative advantages (in manufacturing and intellectual property development) to foster innovation, and maintain its long-standing economic edge through protectionism.

¹ “The US-China Economic Relationship.” Oxford Economics (2021).



05 School Event

Science Fair



Text: G10 Sigma Angela Du

Design: G10 Eta Emmie Zhang

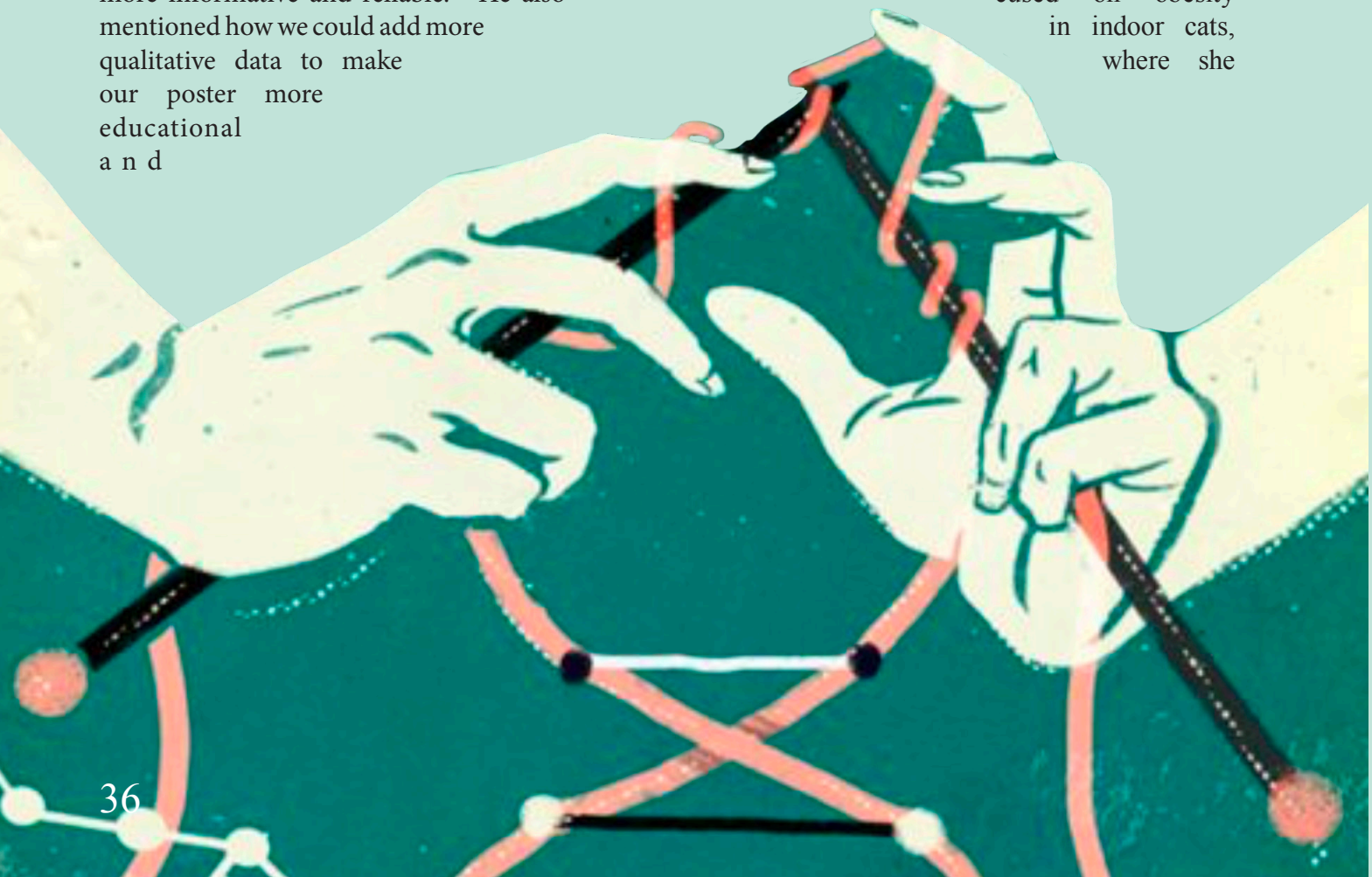
An event that enthralled science enthusiasts was held in WLSA's library on May 28th. The event started at 4:30 pm and ended at 5:30 pm. The one-hour-long event allows students who love science to have enthusiastic interdisciplinary communication.

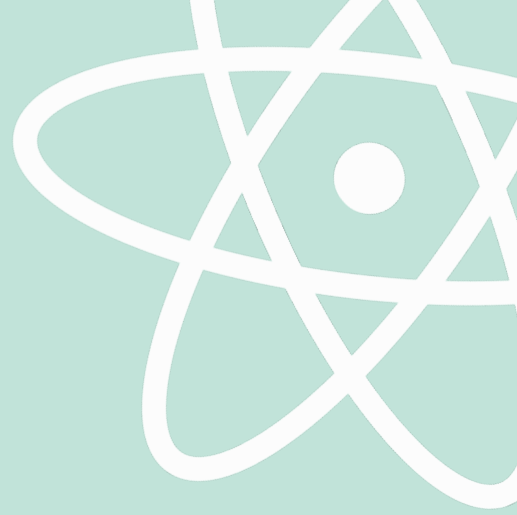
Annie Hua, from grade 10 Theta, gave an engaging presentation on the physics project in which she was involved. Reflecting on her experience, she shared, "The science fair was really helpful. What was valuable to me was that when I presented my project to an A-level physics teacher, he gave practical advice after listening attentively. He pointed out a problem on our poster and explained how a poster should be clear and direct due to its visual impact. He suggested replacing the 'abstract' section with an 'introduction' and adding more qualitative data to make our poster more informative and reliable." He also mentioned how we could add more qualitative data to make our poster more educational and

reliable" Aside from her own presentation, she also learned from her peers: "After my presentation, I also wandered around to listen to my classmates' presentations. A biology presentation on how to prevent diseases really stood out to me. Their idea of replicating cells and inserting them into the human body to prevent diseases was amazing and innovative. It made me really interested in biology."

Seven Xu, another 10th grader, also presented her biology project. She was equally impressed by her classmates' creativity. "I am fascinated by the creativity of my classmates. They have such remarkable ideas like the parallel universe, carotene, and the law of movement in badminton. Their projects were not only imaginative but also visually compelling."

Seven's presentation focused on obesity in indoor cats, where she





provided prevention and treatment, including medication prescriptions and weight control methods. “Through this event, I learned how to effectively allocate tasks and became an expert in feline obesity through my research. It also allowed me to practice my citation and poster design skills.”

The enthusiasm of WLSA students was evident throughout the fair. This event not only united students with a passion for science but also created a shared space where they could immerse themselves in the joy of scientific discovery.

HERITAGE DAY

Author: G11 Jennifer Fu
Editor: G11 Eta Thea Zhang

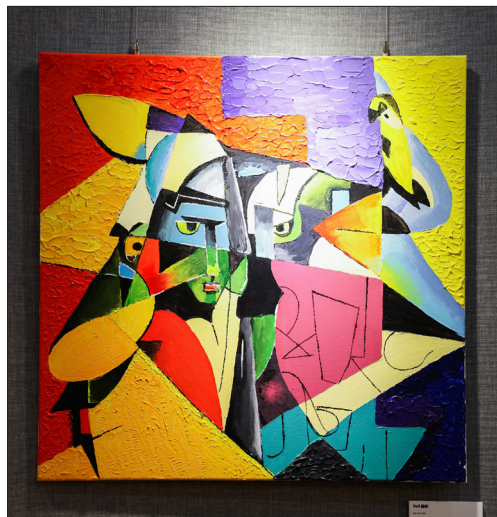
On May 31, WLSA Shanghai Academy hosted its first bazar. The event showcased the artworks of our students and provided opportunities for individuals interested in various performing arts to showcase their talents

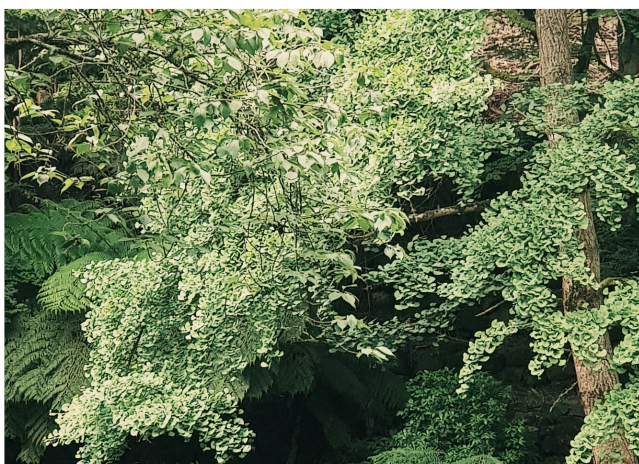
The event took place in the gymnasium of Baoshan Campus, setting the stage for a showcase of artistic talent. Along the left side of the gym, artworks created by art students from different grades were thoughtfully displayed. This exhibition not only provided a platform for students to admire and be inspired by the works of their peers but also fostered a sense of community and appreciation for the arts within the school. Simultaneously, students enthusiastically took to the stage to showcase their talents. For instance, the rendition of “Hamilton” presented by Encore production.

Following the performances, students engaged in a diverse range of activities aimed at promoting cross-cultural communication and understanding. These activities fostered an appreciation for different cultures and encouraged open dialogue among participants. Students took the initiative to set up their own stalls, offering products that represented various cultural influences, such as ceramics, anime merchandise, and more. This provided an opportunity for students to explore and share elements of their own cultural heritage with their peers.



“A day where the unique threads of different cultures wove together into a web of passion, creativity, and community”





Earth Day

Text: G10 Theta Alice Jiang
Design: G11 Theta Catarina Shi

“Reuse your today so that you don't have to reduce your tomorrow.” As the spring approaches, a series of activities are held at both Baoshan and Zhengxi campus to celebrate the annual Earth Day. If you are an expert in environmental protection, you can't miss the challenging knowledge quiz on ecology to showcase your talents! Not only did the school union offer rich opportunities for academic competition, but it also designed various hands-on activities for engagement.

After a whole day's hard work and concentration on studies, students got a chance to learn skills about transplanting and plant a flower on your own near the soccer field. “To plant a tree is to believe in tomorrow.” Students can relax themselves while practicing the idea of sustainable development.

The best way to capture beauty in spring is to pick up the camera and immerse yourself in the nature. The spring photography enabled every beauty-seeker to record splendid natural sceneries. At the same time, this activity served as a catalyst for promoting environmental protection.

Awareness regarding reservation of our vulnerable Earth can't stop at theoretical level, it requires consistent effort just like our recycling initiative. Students can donate old clothes and second-hand books that would be given to children in the mountainous areas and the people in need. We hope to develop a harmonious and green community for WLSA and the world!

Earth Day is never the only time for practicing the idea of ESG. WLSA students will continuously practice low-carbon lifestyles and try our best to save the Earth together!



WLSA SHANGHAI ACADEMY

*(G11-12) 2 Zhengxi Road, Yangpu District,
Shanghai, 200243*
*(G10 & A Level) 299 Tongji Road, Baoshan District,
Shanghai, 200940*

