

# Alex's Angels

## INTRODUCTION TO THE CLASS

### Alex Fong — the cool guy

*Written by: Chessie Ma*

Alex is my classmate who has yellow hair. He is my classmate. He is seventeen years old. He comes from Hong Kong. He has five brothers and sisters and he is the oldest one. He likes playing computer games, swimming, and singing. He comes to Singapore to learn English, improve his spoken and writing skill, and to be independent. He is studying in City College. He thinks he can improve his English because there are more people speaking English here than his city. He also can study in English environment.

### Yang Yan — the cheerful one

*Written by: Jessica Ma*

Yan is the first classmate I got to know at my language class. She is 16 years old. She is outgoing and some people say she is crazy. She likes playing on the computer and chatting with her friends. She also likes shopping. She thinks the education in Singapore is better than that in China, so she wants to study here. She lives in Clementi in Singapore, and she is having a good time in Singapore.

### Jessica Ma — the sweet one

*Written by: Yang Yan*

Jessica is my new classmate. She is a Chinese girl and comes from Shantou. Jessica come to the Singapore because of her studies. Singapore's education is better than China. Jessica wants to improve her English in Singapore. Jessica is a good girl. She is very shy, but she is friendly. Jessica likes doing housework. I think if she gets married, she would be a good wife. She told me about her hobbies. She has many hobbies, such as: watching movies, shopping, listening to music. Jessica thinks Singapore's education is stronger than her city.

### About Chessie Ma — the lovely one

*Written by: Alex Fong*

She is my classmate. She come to Singapore because she want to improve her spoken English. She is seventeen years old. She live in China. She has a brother. Her hobbies are watching movies, listening music and reading. It is because she want to improve her English. She think Singapore are more polite than her country.

### Hoang Long — the funny one

*Written by: Ms. Meiling*

Long is from Vietnam. He is sixteen years old this year. Long loves playing computer games, talking with his friends, and listening to music. He's a funny guy, and makes a lot of jokes and does a lot of silly things in class. We enjoy having him in class, because he makes it interesting. Long came to Singapore to improve his English.



### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Introductions .....	1
Movie Synopsis .....	2
What Have We Learnt? .....	2
Class Outings .....	3
What is True Beauty? .....	3
Book Review .....	3
Game Review .....	3
Advertisement .....	3
Jokes .....	3
Movie Review.....	4

### OUR WONDERFUL STAFF

Movie Critic: Yang Yan

Cartoonist/Jokes/  
Advertisements: Jessica

Book Critic: Chessie

Video Game Critics: Alex and  
Long



## PLOT SUMMARY: PAY IT FORWARD

By: Chessie Ma

Eugene Simonet (Kevin Spacey), is a new social studies teacher in Trevor McKinney's (Haley Joel Osment) class. He gives them a assignment to think of a way to change the world and put it into action. Trevor comes up with an idea, 'pay it forward'. When he tells it to his classmates, only Mr.Simonet supports him. Jerry, a homeless man, is the first person Trevor helps. Trevor lets Jerry live in his home. His mother, Arlene (Helen Hunt) doesn't agree, but Jerry explains 'pay it forward' as "doing something for somebody that they can't do for themselves. You just have to do that three

times and the people you help each do it three times. Then it gets bigger. It goes from three to nine to 27 and on and on and on." Arlene is a drunk. Trevor wants to change her life . So he tries to make her and Mr.Simonet fall in love with each other. He also helps his classmate Adam who is always bullied, but finally...

*"I like [Speech&Drama] a lot because it is fun and exciting...This subject makes me more confident." - Yang Yan, about her classes*

### OVERVIEW OF THE TASKS

#### Page 1:

Each student was assigned a role of a writer for a magazine (i.e. movie critic, sports writer, etc.). As an introduction for the magazine and as a kick-off for our first major project, they were partnered up, and each student had to write an introduction of each other.

#### Page 2:

Students wrote a plot summary of a movie they saw, "Pay It Forward." The best one was chosen for the magazine.

In a subsequent lesson, students recapped what they'd learnt in school so far in a 200-word article. The best two were chosen for the magazine.

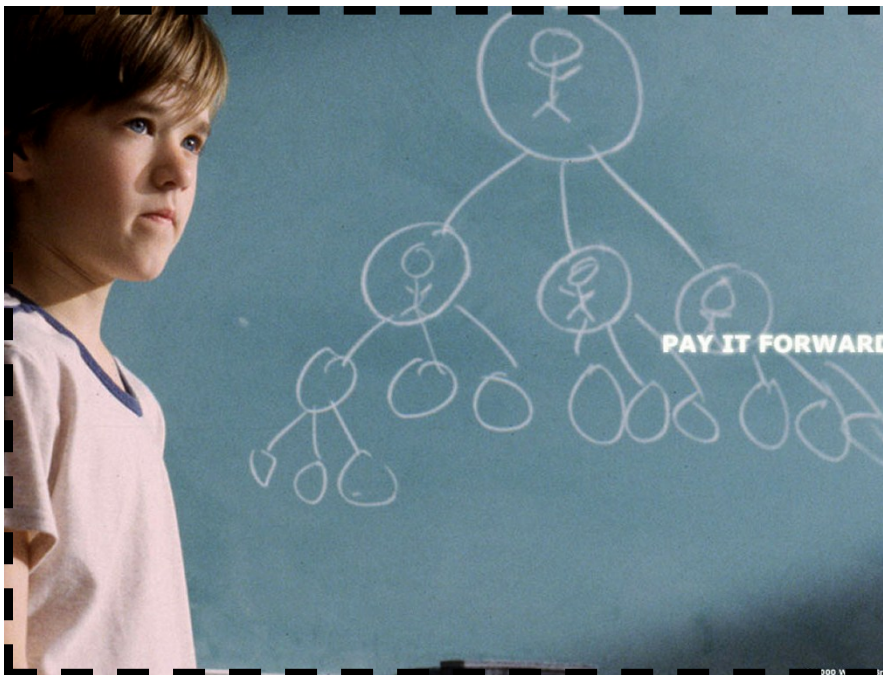
## WHAT I HAVE LEARNT IN SCHOOL SO FAR

From the fifth of September, I studied in City College. I have three teachers: Ms. Priya teaches me things about drama. Ms. Meiling teaches me English. Ms. Serene teaches me English Reading. All of them are good teachers. I learn much knowledge from them. In these four days, Ms. Meiling taught us how to write for magazine, movie and plot summary. After these classes, I have learnt some knowledge. About writing magazine, I knew some new words, like editor, movie, critic, cartoonist and marketer, and another jobs in magazine. About writing movie, I had learnt some new words, such as genre, means type of movie; setting background, when and where the story takes place. About plot summary, I knew how to write it about movie. During these days, I haven't seen Ms Priya, but luckily, she taught me one class before the holidays. She taught us some skills about how to speak loudly and say a whole sentence in one deep breath. She also taught us how to perform on the stage. Ms Serene taught me many new words and asked me to use these words in one paragraph. It can practise my imagination. Ms. Serene also taught us some polite ways in conversation. Such as, instead of "shut up", we can say "Please keep quiet" or "Please reserve your comments"; instead of "Go and die", we can say "Please leave". I like their classes. I can learn many things from them.

**By: Chessie Ma**

I have studied in City College since September 1st. I have learnt alot in these four days and have known several interesting people. My main subjects are drama, English and English reading. Ms Meiling is my main teacher. I always enjoy her class. The first day, she gave us a lot of grammar homework to us to do. Although it's so much, it's still helpful for us. We watched a movie movie in the next class. We also wrote an introduction about our partner for our CSE magazine. The name of our magazine is Alex's Angels. We also enjoy Ms Serene Teoh Rui Li's class. She always let us read on article and then circle some important vocabulary. After that, we use these vocabulary to make stories and we can use these words in our lives- such as "Oh my goodness". Some people don't like to say "Oh my god!". Ms Serene said because some people believe that God exists and they don't like to say "Oh my god!" I think my vocabulary is poor. I should read more English story books and improve it. I think I must speak more in my life and not be shy. The more important think I have learnt is to become more confident. I want the classes to be more interesting. However, I don't know what I can suggest.

**By: Jessica Ma**



*Trevor (Haley Joel Osment) with the drawing of his idea, 'Pay It Forward'*

## WHAT I HAVE LEARNT IN SCHOOL SO FAR

**By: Yang Yan**

I have studied in City College approximately one month. I have three subjects in school. I learnt that school teaches me English, Reading, and Speech & Drama. I think these classes can help my English to improve.

Miss Meiling teaches us English. English is also the most important subject. I learnt from English class lots of knowledge. The main types are vocabulary and grammar, such as: jobs, past simple, past perfect, talking about the future, things around the school, etc. Miss Meiling has many different ways to teach us. Writing on the whiteboard is one of the ways.

Speech and Drama is by Miss Priya who teaches us. I like this subject a lot because it is fun and exciting. Miss Priya teaches us how to breathe and speak. She often shows us how to act on the stage. She shows us many movies every day. For example: cooking videos, music videos, speech movies, etc. This subject makes me more confident.

Miss Serene teaches us Reading. She often gives us some essays to read. Sometimes she also gives us vocabulary, then asks us to make the sentences using these words. For example: stage, cheers, surprise, friends, aisle, etc. I think the reading class can improve my reading and writing skills. Recently I think I enjoy the good time in the class. I would like to have more interesting substances in the class. We can also have classes outside school.

### OVERVIEW OF THE TASKS

#### Page 3:

Students wrote about topics of their choice – movies, video games, books, jokes, etc.

#### Page 4:

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## ADVERTISEMENT

Long, Chessie, Yan, Alex and Jessica, five different people and five different characters, but all of them are nice and friendly. They study together and form an unusual CSE. Do you want to know more information about them? About their study, about their lives and about their hobbies? Don't lose this chance to know these lovely CSE members!! Hurry up and buy their special magazine!

**Written by:** Jessica Ma

## WHAT IS TRUE BEAUTY? STUDENTS RESPOND WITH THEIR OPINIONS.

Most of people think that the beauty of a person is decided by his appearance, but they always ignore inner beauty. I think one person whether beautiful depends on his heart and philosophy. Now, I give you an example. One guy is a handsome man, but he often flirts with girls and do some bad things. Do you think he is a beauty? Another one is not handsome, but he has a good heart. He is a loving and respectful young man. I think it is the true beauty! Of course, the true beauty is also a deformed or sickly person who has good philosophy. When they have some difficulties, they never escape from it. They always smile and try to face difficulties. I think it is the true beauty! The person whether beautiful decide on their heart and philosophy, is not hinged on appearance. — **Yang Yan**

"What is true beauty?": Many people usually think a person who looks pretty is a beauty. However, not all the beauties are good people. Some of them aren't kind-hearted. Do you still think they are beauties? I don't think so. Beautiful isn't only dependent on appearance. It also depends on if she or he has a kind heart. If a beauty doesn't respect anything around her and just thinks about herself, we won't think she is a true beauty. Appearance is not very important. I have a close friend, she is a little fat and isn't pretty. She has some freckles on her face. She is popular in our class because she is willing to help people. She doesn't just think about herself. She is optimistic and influences people around her to be like her. I think that is true beauty. — **Jessica Ma**

## CLASS OUTINGS: OUR UBIN TRIP

"Ubin trip": On August,26,2011. The school had a Pulau Ubin trip. Only six students took part in this trip. They are Seinila, Duan Shuo, Lywint, Alex, Thalia and me. At first, although we had lost the way, we were went too far. We went to Ubin by the boat. On the boat, we took many photos. When we had arrived, we went to have lunch first. We ordered some food, for example, we had prawn, dough, meat, vegetable, rice, noodle, etc. I thought the foods are delicious, because we ate so much. After lunch, we went to rent the bicycles. We took the bicycles and looked around the island. I think it is a nice place to relax. During this time, we did the fish spa. Fish spa is very interesting. I had never seen as big as this fish in Chinese fish spa. It is very cool! When fish ate my foot, I would be afraid but filled with anticipation. I thought it is very itchy when fish bit my foot. Fish spa is fun and I like it. We also took many photos, because I want to show to my family. I think they would be very happy. I think it was a best outing trip for me in City College. I had a wonderful time in this trip.

**Written by:** Yang Yan

## GAME REVIEW: CROSS FIRE

The name is jointly youth nationally known with the name of Cross Fire. Cross Fire of a game like Counter-Strike graphics have improved but the visual equipment and sharpness actually it is a game young people are attracted to this. Also just a shooting game between two teams. A police team, a team theft, like Counter-Strike but after years of searching Cross Fire has been released with new equipment, new characters, maps, stunning graphics that the player likes shooting games, good looks and war coverage are expected. The reason is that I like war, shooting and I preferred the graphics of this game. It is a boring game entertaining to play for several hours, you can see when you have played this game I think you will spend many hours or days that you do know what tired is? I believe this game so nice for many peoples. I think this game can be for both men and women play because I've seen many girls like to play action games. Because they want people to be entertained while completing the job stress or a cense. Since I entered I had know for two games in the games shop. I took at people and I enjoyed playing it together and make friends with people on games. Form a team shoot together. Nice ... And I've played games for 3 years and then Cross Fire .. At first you will be surprised because the control buttons are difficult this game has a total of 12 buttons on the keyboard to play the game. A,w,s,d,tab,shift,ctrl,space. The more you play more and more fire and control the mouse button faster. I wish you the game fun. ^((oo)^ !!

**Written by:** Hoang Long

## JOKES

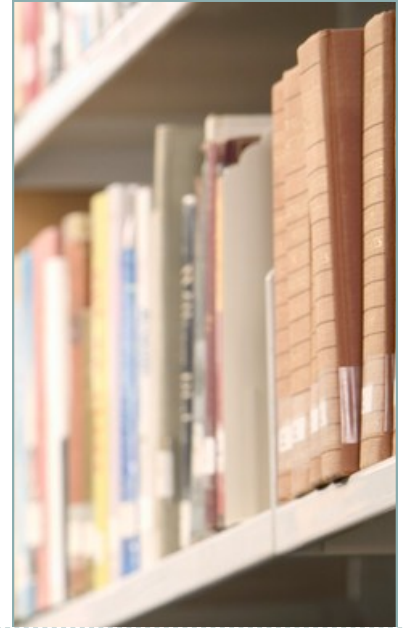
Why is two times ten the same as two times eleven? Because two times ten is twenty, and two times eleven is twenty, too.

A man goes to the doctor and says, "Doctor, please help me. I hurt all over." The doctor asked the man to explain more. The man said, "When I touch my arms it hurts, when I touch my leg it hurts, when I touch my head it hurts. Everywhere I touch it hurts." The doctor examined the man and said, "Mr. Smith, your finger is broken."

A man was walking along a river bank (the land at the side of a river is called a bank) when he saw a man walking along the opposite bank. He called across, "Hey, how do I get to the other side of the river?" The other man looked confused and shouted back, "You're on the other side of the river already."

A doctor said to his patient, "I have bad news and worse news." "Oh dear, what's the bad news?" asked the patient. The doctor replied, "You only have 24 hours to live." "That's terrible," said the patient. "How can the news possibly be worse?" The doctor replied, "I have been trying to contact you since yesterday."

**Written by:** Jessica Ma



*"I think we should learn from her courage and strong will." - Chessie Ma*

## BOOK REVIEW: SCALING THE WALLS

In this issue, I want to recommend the book called "Scaling Walls-My Story". This book was written by Oh Siew May who has had cerebral palsy since she was born. This book is about her experiences. She has four brothers and sisters. She is the youngest one and she is the only one who is disabled as well. She was always hurt by the people around her or strangers when she was young. At the age of seven, she became a student of the Spastic Children's Association School. In there, she felt warmth because most of the students were alike. Although she was disabled she still took care of her family. She was a hard working student. She relied on her efforts to pass the Primary School Leaving Examinations, and she was the only one who passed the exam in her class. This matter inspired her. After the exam, she went into a normal school and plunged into a totally different environment. Some students laughed at her, some students stayed far away from her. In her class, everyone isolated her. She felt lonely. She was treated as a monster, but she didn't give up and made a friend with Miss Sarah Yew. With her help, her life in school got easier and made more friends. After 4 years, she grew stronger. In the holiday, she got a job

because they pitied her not because of her ability. She was hurt, but she still had a great experience. She tried her best to deal with any problem that she encountered in her life. She had never give up. She still uphold now.

I think we should read this book. I think we should learn from her courage and strong will. She never gave up although she is disabled and many people laughed at her, pitied her, treated her unfairly. What about us? What is the reason that cause us to give up when we encounter some incident? Why can't we be as strong as her? Although she knew there would be many things she might not be able to do, she still tried. Why can't we do this? Why do we give up when we think we may not be able to do? If we never try, we will never know the outcome. I think after we read this book, we also can learn how the impossible can become possible. Although she disabled, she is able to do like a normal person even something a normal person cannot do. I think it is up to your attitude.

This is a great book. Don't miss it!

**Written by:** Chessie Ma



## CITY COLLEGE

### CERTIFICATE IN STANDARD ENGLISH 1

Certificate in Standard English 1 (Foundation) is an exciting course for beginners learning English. Over the course of 20 weeks, students are provided with an interactive environment to develop their English communication skills.

Classes featuring speech and drama lessons, independent projects, field trips and more are conducted by certified language instructors with the aim of cultivating an understanding of the English language. Students will emerge from the course fully equipped with the essential skills necessary for flourishing in the local environment.

This course is designed solely for international students who are non-native speakers of English. It will commence on 1 August 2011 and end on 16 December 2011.

## MOVIE REVIEW: "THE NOTEBOOK"

Hey, guys! This week, I will recommend a movie to you. This movie is called "The Notebook". We saw it in class. The notebook was directed by Nick Cassavetes. The actors were James Ghana, Gena Rowland, Rachel McAdams and Ryan Gosling. This movie is very heart warming and romantic.

The story begins with an 80-year-old man (James Ghana) reading a story from a notebook to an old woman (Gena Rowland) in a nursing home. The old man was reading the story over and over again. The old woman was always listening quietly and curious questioning the result. In a nursing home, this same screen was played every day. In "The Notebook", Allie (Rachel MaAdams) is a rich man's daughter. Her family came to town in the summer. At a carnival, she met Noah (Ryan Gosling). Noah had no money, but he was very happy. Allie learned freedom and laughter from him. They fell in love. However, Allie's parent blocked the love of two people, and they were separated at the end of summer. After that, Noah joined the army and fought in World War 2. Allie became a nurse and met a good man- Lon. As Noah's 365 letters was hidden secretly by Allie's mother. Allie finally abandoned Noah after several years of waiting. Before she walked into the church for her marriage, she suddenly saw Noah in the newspaper, who had promised to build a white house for them. Allie came to meet him and they fell in love again. Between her fiance and her first love. Allie knew what she wanted. It's the story ending.

Yes, the old man is Noah and the old woman is Allie. The senile Allie is suffering from dementia, so Noah has been repeatedly telling Allie about their story until she remembers. It is very heart-warming, right?

I like this movie and want to recommend to my friends, because this movie tells us: young love is pure and beautiful, but very unrealistic. Mature love is complex and beautiful, and more realistic.

**Written by:** Yang Yan

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