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1. 2018

1.1 November

First Post, I really don't know what I'm doing (2018-11-12 18:20)

When I first came to USA to pursue high school due to my loving supportive family, the purpose of it is to improve my English both verbally and linguistically. Although the side purpose of it is to assist me in getting into a better US college and allow me to have more free time to work on my extracurricular aspects of mine, the main reason is to improve my English. And after 3 months in the US, I fell from A+ to a B+ in English. Long story short, I just simply did not believe my ability to get a B in English even if I tried, so I just left it on the second priority. As you can see, my grammar is rusty, my English is dull, my phrasing is weird and problems stack up everywhere. Which brings me to what I am doing now. I am starting a blog...

Like everything in my life, I can guaranty that this thing of mine wouldn't even survive 2 weeks after I abandoned it. The thing about continuing a blog is very tricky. If you are successful in keeping one, either you are very passionate about it or you simply do not care whatsoever. With that being said, I'm going to go with the latter and not care about this blog at all. The purpose of this blog is to motivate to type useless **** as it would theoretically improve my writing, the worse part of my English problem. Add on to the recent breakthrough of 90wpm of mine, there is no better time to start a blog than now. I hope no one reads this as all this are just me blurting about my non-interesting(I actually can't think of a word for that) life. It would be a very tricky task to hide this from my friends and family as because the name Speedstor is somewhat unique (the exact reason why I love it). I still didn't try searching speedstor blog on the internet, and I don't have any hope of seeing this on it, but then it is a possibility.

With this being the first blog of mine, I guess I would do a quick introduction of myself as I had done countless times before in my 15.8 years of my life. I am an introvert. I have a Razer blade stealth. I have a Razer Blackwidow chroma. I have a razer naga. I have a Razer Nabu watch I have a razer bag... Ok, I'm kidding. Let's me just pull my continuousness back. So, I'm Aldrin Cheung, a student at a preparatory academy called Fairmont. The list of hobbies of mine includes coding, drawing, animating, running, youtube, and wasting time. A year ago I would hold back on mentioning my interest in art due to how bad my art was back then. I'm sure a year later I would criticize the art I am producing now pretty hard, but I am proud to say that I am not that bad at drawing. Moving on from drawing, I also am a geek and love everything about computers. You could misread me as a gamer from the list of Razer product that I have but I'm not. I had played more than a 400 Minecraft Skywars matches in my life and I had only won 2. I simply cannot be drawn to games as the only thing I get is lost after lost (pretty sure the grammar is wrong there, but I don't care enough to figure out what to replace that with. As I said, the only way to maintain a blog is to not care about it). Going back to what I was saying, I love tech. I'm not particularly good at it, but I could do what I could do. In the past, I have made a few counterfeit games and I guess that's it. This paragraph is all over the place at this point, so I'm just going to end it with a referral to my art [1]portfolio.

This blog had been going on for quite some time now, and I don't wanna type no more. So I guess I would end it here. Hope this blog wouldn't end up like my daily vlog, DON'T SEARCH IT UP. (Quality outro)



Growing up in Hong Kong, my mother tongue is Cantonese and English isn't something that familiar with me. According to my mother, I used to chew and tear books instead of actually reading them. This little detail of my childhood had got me into countless times of annoying talks with my mum. Whenever I can't figure something out despite giving my best try, my mum always brings up how I didn't use books in a proper way when I was small, and that is the causation of my "stupidity" of that time. Although this treatment may seem bad and horrible, I'm glad that I got through it and have a parent that is willing to carry out this treatment for me. Through the senseless blaming and accusing from my mum, I really develop a very humble characteristic(not anymore after I said it, but....). Whatever you might really think about my treatment as a kid, I think the benefits outweigh the disadvantages. Although I agree with this way of teaching myself, I won't choose this path myself even with the pre-knowledge of how it would help me grow as a person.

my latest FAILED artwork (Don't worry about it)

1. <https://speedstor.artstation.com/>

Speedstor (2018-11-12 18:21:41)

I did not expect the picture to be a big thumbnail for the post, but whatever, i wanna sleep.

What is a blog (2018-11-13 20:48)

Going on the second blog of whatever this is, I really don't know what is the potential of a blog. I just came around to found out that I have no idea what this who blog thing is about. While I admit that my life is dynamic and interesting, I don't think I have that much to say on a daily blog. Although the main purpose of this blog is to just improve my English as I would be typing. As that being said, for today, I will talk about the lucky life that I have been living in.

On the topic of how I don't know what s blog is about and what I am suppose to be writing in a blog, I just found out how a blog works. Just now, my computer broke. Specifically, the charging port on my computer broke. I guess this is what a blog does. It is a place where one records what interesting or unusual thing had happened that day. I have never thought that anything out of the records would happen regularly, but I guess these incidents happen sometime somehow. To have a blog on the other hand is to provide a place to express and release the excitement or frustration that the incident creates. Today, my laptop broke. I would not be coding as much and a lot of plans that I had planned out for myself had broken down. For example, the website that I had promised myself to finish before my birthday, maybe postpond just for the fact that I don't have a portable computer no more. All I am relying on is a yoga book gen 1 keyboard. I believe I still got a typing speed of about 60 wpm(I'm pretty proud of that, lol). Nevertheless, I would try my best to finish my freelancer website as soon as possible and

live on my life as a normal dude. From today, it could be definitely be described as a roller coaster ride. I went from being souly bored with my life to having my main laptop breaking down on me. Nevertheless, as I use this word the second time, life is interesting and we just gotta adapt and survive.

Just a side note, while my computer broke down an me and furstration arose from under my heart, my parents immediatly offered to buy me a new one. As I said from my first blog, I am spoiled.



Another Art Piece that I did. I dunno why me doing this. Whatever

My experience of trying to get a toy (2018-11-14 19:58)

As like the past 2 dsys, I have no idea what to write about today. I should thank anybody, even myself in this case, to have waste time to read this along with me. But under the pressure of the potential death of this 2-day long blog, I am going to talk about the exprience of me trying to get a hasbro toy from my parents. Similar to any normal child, I was very into transformers when I was small. Transformers was very fascinating to me because one single object was able to be two discrete things. The transforming part of transformers put my younger self into awe and disbelieve. What makes me even more stoked is that there are actual real-life toys that transform. With this awe, I have for transformers, me as a kid desired for toys after toys of it. After my parents had suffered through the suffering of my begging for months, they said that if I would finish the Chinese book series called "The Hero that shoot Eagles" (this name for it is just my straight translation). Being 11 years old at that time, this 4 book series in Chinese is more than impossible in my eyes. You need to understand, despite me being raised in Hong Kong, I am more familiar with English than Chinese. I could finish an English translation without breaking a sweat, but reading it in Chinese would break the patience in me. At that point in time, I didn't think I would even be able to finish the first chapter. After some time of me struggling with my own inner heart, I set on reading this book.

The first few chapters of this book are torture. Because of how the book likes to be written in a half poem half prose format, I'm was literally confused to the biggest degree. Through this period, I used the toy that I am going to get afterward as a motivation to push myself through. And after that initial few chapters, I need to admit that it isn't really that hard. But as a 5th-grade student, I obviously don't understand everything. Still, reading this book is a fun experience because I had just filled in the parts that I don't understand with my imagination. This reading trait of mine had led me to a few wrong word definitions in my heart.

One of the many examples of this in English is the phrase "being guilty". For the longest time of my life, I thought being guilty is to be pure and innocent. The problem of filling in things that you don't understand with your imagination is that you always get the opposite of what the real definition is. To be honest, this totally opposite definitions of words that I learned from books would carry on appearing in my life. Back to the Chinese book that I was talking about, although the book is overall interesting to the 11-year-old self, there are many parts of it that I just can not except.

The second problem with this Chinese book series is that it contains relationships between male and female. This book is the first book I have read that deal with the pg part of relationships. To be direct, the character didn't have sex literally, but it talked about people being naked. And to an 11-year-old, allow me to repeat myself, is not bearable. From that point before, all I have read is Charle and the Chocolate factory, nothing more. And because of how obscure these things are to my mind at that time, I still remember the specific details about it. On top of that, the fact that I am not getting every word that I read isn't a helping factor.

Moving on to the third problem, the book is freaking boring. As like any other Chinese old novels, this book has subplots that repeat and repeats itself. After defeating one person, they went on defeating another. After gaining an ability, they went on concurring another one. And 4 books of exactly that although still managed to entertain myself, is not able to make me hate the book at the same time. This paragraph is still lacking description and words. But for my time sake, I need to move on.

Because I still have hw to do like any other high schoolers, I need to go attend on my hw now. The rest of the story is just me finally finishing the book while getting a dinosaur transformer in the end. I know no one would read this thing. But if you really did read it, I thank you for wasting time with me and I wish you at least didn't lose brain cells. gb.

[1]



Plz cheer me on with this drawing, I don't have the gut within me to intentionally draw time out to finish it

1. https://3.bp.blogspot.com/-tPpre0TJl5w/W-zgXUPt60I/AAAAAAAAADUY/K3MWPTIXE1Qi_dNdeaLXxjn7PWVKbCi1QCLcBGAs/s1600/IMG_0429.JPG

Getting my website setup (2018-11-15 20:52)

Looking back on the vlog that I had decided to start was a bummer. It reminded me of the failure I had with it. On that vlog, I was only able to get 5 continuous days before I gave up. For me, I think the biggest causation of that tragic story is how long I need to edit in the videos. For each vlog, I need about half an hour to put together and another hour to render it with my integrated graphics CPU. If I would have a GPU, things may change, but I

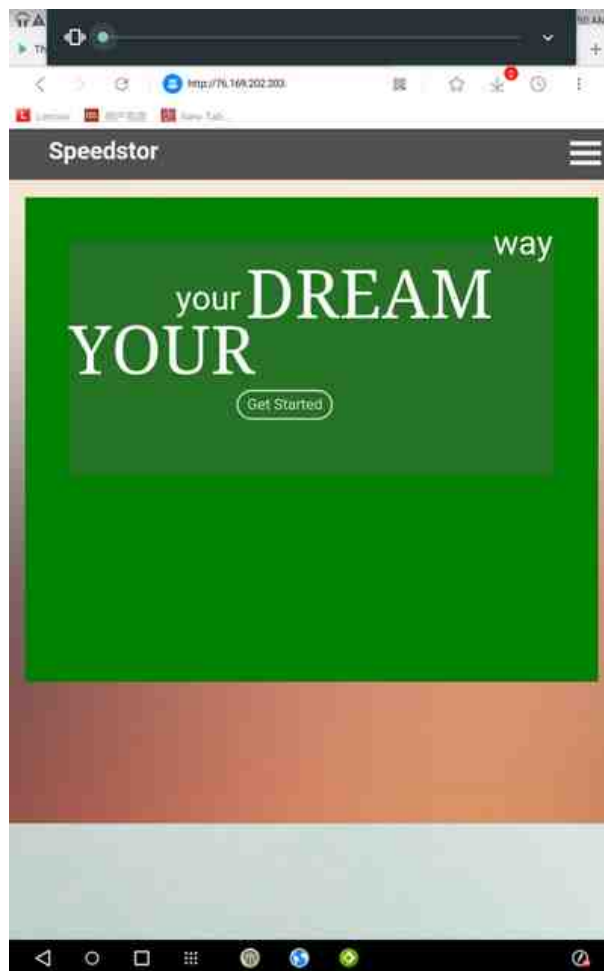
doubt it myself. Maybe one more vlog to be produced, that's all. And for that exact reason, I turned to write a blog rather than reiterate the vlog that I have. With that said, I had just set up the server that will host my server. The content there is still very non-finished, lol, so I won't release it just yet. On top of that, I didn't really add any sort of security backups just yet, so it would still be some time.

While making this website, I ran into some problems, very stupid problems. Because my deadline for this website for myself is before my birthday which is a month away. And for a 10th grader to write a web hosting program in that amount of time is not really that possible. Plus, I also wanted to have accounts on this server that I make, so... Back to the topic, lol, the problem I had with the server is that the server was child-proofed and they were trying to prevent us from being hacked. But for me, I don't care about being hacked and this program isn't allowing me to host it, So, after changing values in texts files for an hour, I finally got it to work. To the question why it took a whole hour, I really don't know.

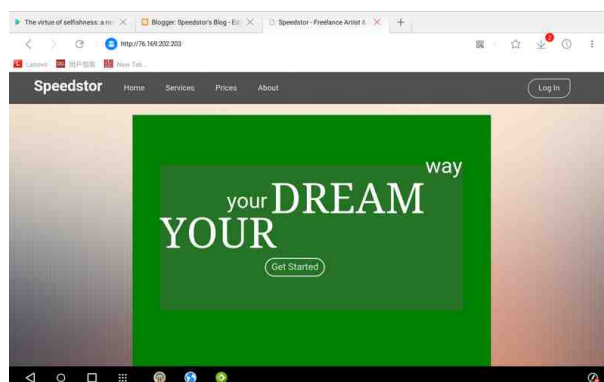
After finally finishing initializing the program that I downloaded, I tried to go on the website on my phone, and oh boy is that website ugly. While the responsive website doesn't look good by itself, the responsive website didn't even show up. I then went about fixing that, and still keeping the bad design. It was then I just realized that I need to type that whole website again because the one I have now is trash. And that itself comes with loads of problems. Final is coming up so it won't be such a possible thing to just work on my website solely. On top of that, my laptop just broke yesterday, so to make my website productively, I could only type it out at home. And that brings me to the final problem, I am getting fat, lol. I need to go do exercise and this tight schedule of finishing this website before my birthday is really hard to do. But nevertheless, life is about accepting challenges, so I guess it is fine and the only thing that I could do is to go through it by myself while whining about it on the internet.

Although the upcoming month of buildup towards my birthday would be very busy, I look forward to completing this challenge of mine (I'm so cringy).

[1]



[2]



The website that I am working on

1. https://2.bp.blogspot.com/-MWW5cz8kIY4/W-4-voRwHbI/AAAAAAAAADUk/4eMU8DRtxN0INIh9vwKv1ZUmK20gpwD4gCLcBGA/s1600/Screenshot_20181116-115048.png
2. https://3.bp.blogspot.com/-7hfvz65yK1w/W-4-xvcBWII/AAAAAAAAADUo/71buZNATGpc_zVja5RCe2D-GKAV_84eoQCLcBGA/s1600/Screenshot_20181116-115018.png

Still Struggling, lol (2018-11-16 23:17)

After 4 days of having my english grade below A-, it is still stuck at B+... I really hate myself. I am pretty sure one or two of well done assignments would save it from abbliveration, but I guess I will have to see. Continuing my blog, today I'm going to talk about the change i gone through when i moved to shanghai for my education.

It all happened very suddenly, it is one sudden random day that my parents told me about their plan on continuing my education in Shanghai. I still remember that day when I was stunned. At first, I didn't really buy the idea for me to go to a foriegn place and have a new life. I am super lucky that I have made friends despite being anti-social. I can not imagine myself making another group of friend. It is this that blinded me and place me in a very relactant mood about the whole thing. But while I am having this relactant feeling about the whole thing, my parents didn't care and had me take a plane to Shang-hai to have the interview with the school. And what made everything so unbelievable is that when I went to the interview there are at least a hundred people trying to go into this school. I didn't know back then that a school could be so popular in getting students in the middle of the year. Despite all the competition that I have to go through to go to this school in shanghai, I somehow made it. I still remember that I wasn't trying that hard on the test because i wanted to stay in Hong Kong. In the end, it;s just a freaking miricale for me to just

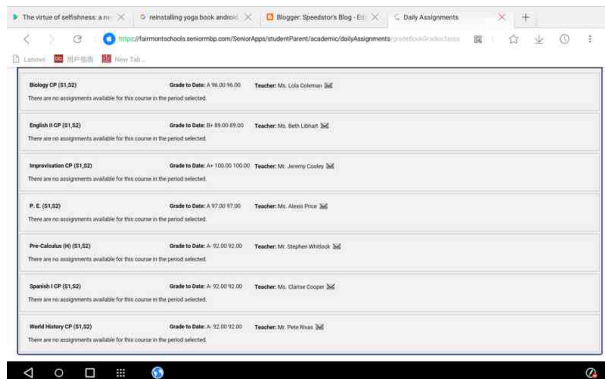
be able to be accepted to this school.

After being accepted, I went to study in this school the following year as planned. The whole thing was so bizzare to me. When I was in Hong Kong, I was only a little above average compared to the whole city, but now I'm transfered to a foriegn country with a ginourmous school. Just to let you know, I'm not exaggerating when I say ginourmous. The school is at least 10 times larger than the school I was in back in Hong Kong. There are legit "forest" located within the school. And of course, this lovely study environment comes with a cost, same with just studying oversees. That drawback is the tution is heavy. Although that tution compared the that of the school I'm studying now in the US is nothing, but then I can not believe that amount could be used in just a tution for a secodary school student. And this specific detail changed me drastically.

Back when I was still studying in Hong Kong, I love playing video games(Minecraft). I save all my homework in class while leaving all other in the one hour that i go to school early. I finish my homework mostly a few seconds before turning them in. And while my parents had adapt to what I use to do and assign me extra mandatory worksheet that i need to do daily, to my game-loving heart, it poses no challenge at all. And as i push everything that i need to do during class, i leave all the time left for minecraft. Even if you ask me now for how I didn't get bored from that blocky game, I can provide no answer at all. But this compared to me in Shanghai is a totally change. After I went to Shanghai, I was always reminded of the tution that my parents are paying for me to be there. There is a constant stress that pushes me forward. Although this kind of stress did die down during my second year in Shanghsi, at least it cured my gaming edition.

While going to shanghai for secondary school was against my wishes, it did a lot of good things to me. For one, I quited gaming. And secondly, I finally had the right attitude for studying. And just to clarify, my studying

habits are still not the best, with procrastination being my worst enemy, it is way better than before and I am grateful that my parents sent me to where I go.



My dropping and dying grade, especially English

Progress on the website (2018-11-18 18:07)

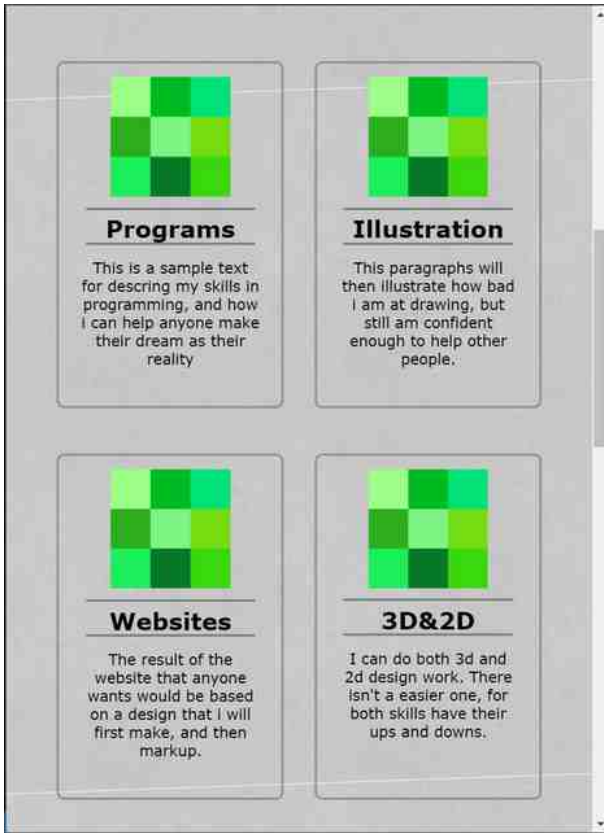
I know, I missed yesterday's blog(as I say to no one). But then I did write something yesterday, and that is a [1]review of the in-school play. It fell short because yesterday and today were all occupied with me trying to become familiar again with HTML, CSS, and javascript so that I could finish my website before my Birthday. After fixing the home page's CSS yesterday, I used about 4 hours to make the page and learn PHP. It is honestly quite time-consuming.

So, yesterday, I fixed the home page of the website. Wait, let me take that back. The fix is a strong word. Nothing was broken about the site, it is just that it looks horrendous. It doesn't look good now, but then at least I myself could accept it. The thing that I didn't find acceptable is that the mobile version of the site only contains a 100-word paragraph and I knew no one would be interested in that.

So, I just switched thing around and have the visual introduction of myself show up instead. And due to the lack of productivity and unfamiliarity I have with the super easy CSS codes, it took me a whole entire day. And the fact that I was kneeling the whole time I typed out the code didn't help either. My original plan for the weekend is to finish all the HTML and CSS portion of the website on Saturday and work on school work on Sunday. But in the end, I spent more than 6 hours on youtube on the bed and 2 hours procrastinating. With all that said, those things are already in the past, so let's just focus on the future.

Today, I wrote the about the web page and fixed a little bit of the home page of my website. Not much. And when you are typing a blog, you don't want to have a stack of homework behind your screen to intimidate you. So, I guess I will stop it here. I have less than 9 hours till school and until I need to hand in my homework. Really some first world problems here.

[2]



Over-analyzing (2018-11-19 20:47)

Today, as like any other day, is not productive. I finished school at 3 while using the follow-up hour talking with friends... I really don't know any other way to waste time. On top of that, I don't know what to talk about for today. I'm a successful person.

But in all seriousness tho, I do need to talk about something. So, whatever, I will talk about over-analyzing. I came across this topic when I was scrolling through youtube. And because my watch history is filled with the youtube austinmconell's content, this video about the benefits of over-analyzing come up my recommendations. Through this video, it got me thinking, is over-analyzing really a good thing. According to the video, hidden meanings are made from the general feeling of the story or artwork. It is the general intention of the product that generates hidden meaning not the other way around. Very little directors intentionally put easter eggs to convey their ideas, they just do as they feel and as they want to present themselves. But when it is put in the viewers perspective, the only way to analyze the work of a person is to find these "hidden meanings". In some ways, it is true. When these quote-in-quote hidden meanings are laid out from the feeling of the director, it is possible to trace these hidden-non-meanings back to what the director felt. But then we are assuming that the director did all these intentionally. And it is also where things get wrong at this point.

[3]



My on progress website

1. https://docs.google.com/document/d/1D0JHoPgHzJjHFYlX_f2I370QnXRNy8CakbGLvpvF95Q/edit?usp=sharing
2. https://1.bp.blogspot.com/-w46G5-bS4dk/W_IMsJdZ7gI/AAAAAAAAADVc/FJ2YILzn85o1vChr8D57hUj3DT19ACDNgCLcBGA/s/s1600/asdf.PNG
3. https://4.bp.blogspot.com/-CvYH_0G9EKQ/W_IMsHIeheI/AAAAAAAAADVg/aRwDM_FmJE0vpby-W1S1DZ20HKrKWxaAwCLcBGA/s/s1600/Capture.PNG

In my mind, there is nothing wrong in crediting someone for something that they didn't do. It's just that I find it very frustrating... I'm contradicting myself.. But then at least I know what I want people to do. I want these analyzers to just analyze. Tell us how certain things would help build the scene subconsciously, tell us how parallels are drawn in the book and how coincidence is made but don't just say the director or author did a list

of things. Maybe it is possible to separate this two list and category of things. One for what the director intended and one of how objects contribute. At this point, even I don't know what I am talking about and I am pretty sure I can't do the thing I wish people to do myself. Plus, I have undone hw again!!

At the end of the day, over-analyzing is a fine thing and a good thing... I suppose... (I really hate when I try to argue for something and seeing myself fail). Nevertheless, keep over-analyzing things, at least we could expand our brains and maybe work towards a world where directors really hide thousands of hidden-meanings into their work. But until then, I NEED TO FINISH MY HW!

This is a work I did like a year ago. Still holds up good in my opinion, so peace.

I need to sleep.exe (2018-11-20 01:44)

It's freaking twelve twenty-seven in the morning right now. I don't want to sleep, I don't want to play, I don't want to do hw, I only want to type. But on the other hand, I don't want to type my essay because that counts as hw. And that is why a blog comes in handy, lol.

I actually don't have anything to talk about right now. It is day till Thanksgiving holiday and I just don't want to go to school tomorrow. You have to understand, I like going to school. I had little to no complaint about school for the last 4 years. It's just that something about tmr that strikes me in a mood to not go to school. To be honest, now I think about it, I now slowly gain a feeling of not going to school(that sentence phrasing is bad, but whatever). For

the last month, I have been waiting for school to end from the start of the school day. This habit of mine is causing my grades to drop and I still at the moment can't kill this habit. The origin of this phenomenon of mine started when I over-stressed myself while trying to self-study 2 AP subjects. After that, I just gave up on the whole Ap self-study and convinced myself that it is probably better to just focus on extra-curricular activities that I like. So, I branched off to running, coding, drawing, and learning at the same time. Every day started off with me trying to scrap time off my schedule to do these stuff. The end result is that not only can I not take the ap test at the end of the semester now, I also stressed myself out the second time. And after that, I was a slump all alone, how surprising. I literally hate myself now. And the worse thing about this is that I would probably not learn from this mistake of mine. I keep being lazy and using the period of hard-working time to make an excuse for it. It is a never ending-loop.

Just remember again that I still have an essay to type, so I need to finish this now. Peace, lol.

Finally got back a A- in English (2018-11-20 21:15)

Welcome to my blog where I get very concerned over my own grade. In today's episode, I have to announce that I finally got myself out of a B+ in English and had achieved my goal, and it means that I no longer need to practice my English in which means I'm not continuing this blog...

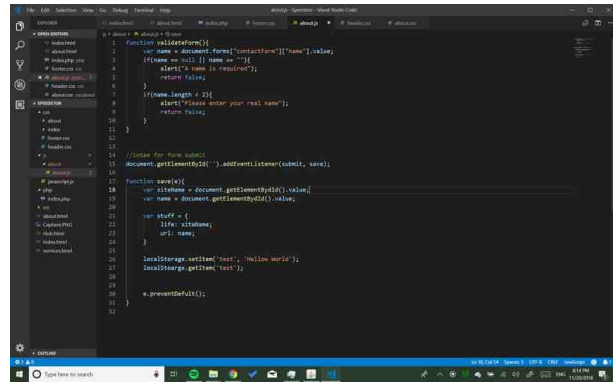
Just kidding, the whole reason that I got back to a A- is that I attended an extra credit activity and dragged myself out of there. My English still sucks and I still don't know what I am doing in life. Through this severe grade drop that I have, I have learned that I need to stop trying to code my own game in parallel to school work. I am not fit for managing time. But again, my goal for setting up the

website before my birthday pre-exists and I still need to attend to it and finish it. With that said, I also need to now pull my grade to an A before Finals. I am going to fail miserably, but everything is worth a try. Even if it comes down to bribing, jk.

Because I had already posted today, I really don't have anything to talk about today. I just want to train my English, if that is even do-able. (pause for 5 minutes...) I guess I will talk about my experience in breaking electronics.

While I love electronics and know how to treat them in order to prevent them from spoiling, I don't do what I know. All my life, each device of mine break one by one under my hands, even the ones with a reputable brand. Fortunately, I only had my first electronic device in Grade 7. So the years before that had been omitted to my electronic curse. The devices that I have broken includes a phone, 2 laptops, 3 Bluetooth earphones, countless cables, countless mice, a kindle and 2 USB. The list is very long and I doubt some people would even own this much electronics in their life. But because I have the privilege of owning this much device, it is also my curse to break all of them. To be honest, I am not those type of people to intentionally break their devices in order to persuade their parents to buy them a new one, that is lame. It is just that I am clumsy and that is my nature, thank you, I am never wrong. But really, I do don't care as much for these devices and part of me always blame how I know that electronics are designed with user torture in mind. Phones are drop tested and banged on the wall for multiple times to ensure user satisfaction, earphones are made waterproof so that the user won't break it because of carelessness. The problem here is that I use this safe cushion too much and it most of the time doesn't do as much as I want it to.

I don't want to type no more, lol, sorry, that's the end. Bye.



```
function validateForm() {
    var name = document.forms["contactForm"]["name"].value;
    if (name == null || name == "") {
        alert("Name is required!");
        return false;
    }
    if (name.length < 3) {
        alert("Please enter your real name!");
        return false;
    }
}

function save() {
    var username = document.getElementById("username").value;
    var name = document.getElementById("name").value;
    var stuff = {
        username: username,
        name: name
    };
    localStorage.setItem("test", "Hello World");
    localStorage.setItem("test", JSON.stringify(stuff));
    document.getElementById("message").innerHTML += "Saved!";
}
```

Javascript is dumb, it is sideloaded, phffff

I don't understand how people learn javascript as their first language, IT IS SIDE LOADED!!!!!! I really don't want to learn it and use it on my webpage.

Speedstor (2018-11-20 21:18:15)
This is soo bad, please save me.

I forgot (2018-11-21 23:43)

It is 10 pm at night currently and I had planned to sleep at 8. But then because of youtube and some of my extra-curricular activities, I forgot my blog for the day. So, now I need to quickly scrap something up to avoid losing the blogging streak. You need to understand, once you lose a streak on something, you are going to stop doing that thing entirely.

And because I have nothing to talk about today, I will talk about how I won a Kahoot game in class. Grow up as a kid, although is seen as a top student way back then, I had never won a Kahoot game. I blame how it is about speed and not accuracy. Little do I know, it is just that I didn't practice enough. Through the daily hw that my math teacher assigned me. I practice Math every single day like it or not. And I believed that this made me improve at math a big chunk, that didn't

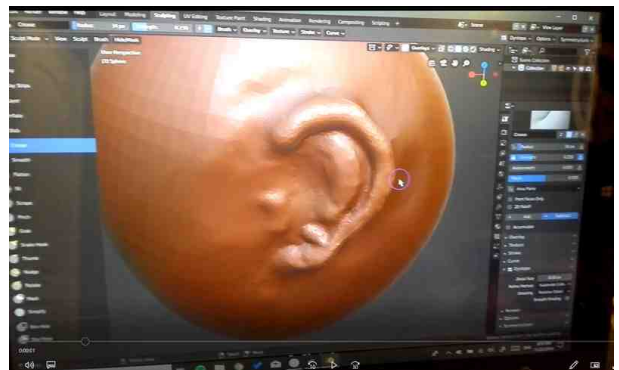
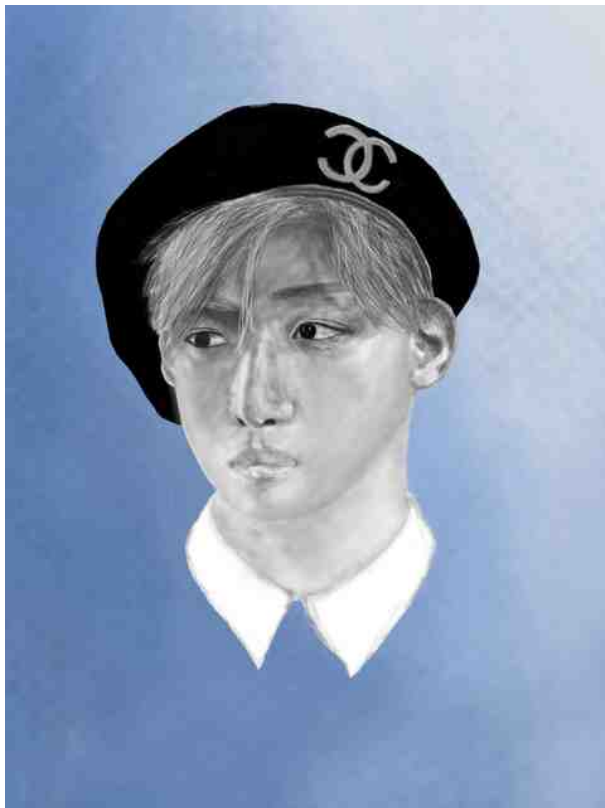
make sense but moving on. Going into this game, I had no hope in winning, but then when I saw my name on the top 5-leaderboard after the second question, I freaked out. Not the freaking out that you scream, but my heart started racing. I couldn't handle the stress. You have to know, if you win this game, you get 5 points extra credit. And although when the 5 points are put into context, it is not a lot, I had just experienced a grade bump from 10 points. So this Kahoot has the potential in helping me get a step toward the new A grades goal that I have. So, back to the topic, after I answer the 3rd question, I just kept answering the questions right. I was in disbelief when this happened, but I didn't question anything, I just went on. And at the end (way too many ands), I won, long story short.

Yeah, this blog is a weird one, I just want to sleep and keep my daily vlog. So, I guess that is it for today. Hope anyone that is reading it enjoyed my horrible grammar and peace.

The latest out of proportion and dis-even shading of mine

Thanksgiving (2018-11-25 23:07)

Thanksgiving has just passed and I wasted more than 2 days solely on Youtube. I still remember how I had purposefully told myself that I cannot waste time on this holiday. I got a website to set up, an art skill that I need to learn, a blog that I need to continue, homework to do, and revisions to catch up with. But despite having a great Thanksgiving meal that I had help none of whatsoever, I didn't really do too much of anything. It is the last day of the holidays and I had just barely finished my 2 homework throughout the 5-day break... I really need to work on how to manage my time..... (infinite dots).



First try

Let's talk about the actual Thanksgiving day on Thursday. That day was awesome, to be honest. Although as I said, I didn't participate in making the meal for everyone, I did do productive things. As to how productive it is, I guess I will leave it up to you to decide. So, basically, I went through a bunch of (2) 3d sculpting tutorials the night before and I sculpted an ear and an unsuccessful head,

very unsuccessful head. I don't think I stressed it enough, a very extremely bad unsuccessful head. And the fact that I can't actually draw a face without a reference picture didn't help with anything. All my past artworks had been cheated through by copying the shading on a picture. But in a 3d environment, shading is no longer a thing, it is all handled by the computer. But in return, you actually need to know the bumps and crevices on a face. Obviously, because I had cheated on art for all my 15 years of life, I had no idea how to do anything in that 3d environment. But let's put our failures in the past and never look at them again, except when I actually need to do the whole process again in the future, I don't know what I'm saying, the phrasing is way off. I can't type and I can't English. It is definitely not because I skipped 2 days of blogging.



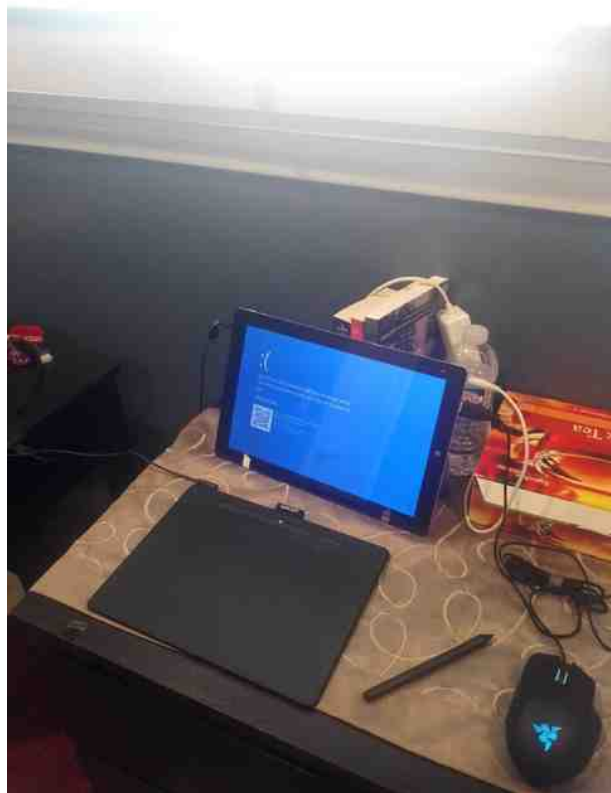
Failed 3d face. It at least looks like a face, but..

As to what I did after the Thanksgiving break is pretty dumb. I don't know if I was too productive during the 2 days prior to the day, or if I was just lazy. But basically, the following 3 days were filled with youtube and youtube and youtube. And youtube. I can't explain it, I just can not. I still remember the feeling I had when I watched all these youtube videos. I was part bored, part tired, part sleepy, part angry, and partly annoyed by the unfinished homework. I was telling myself that if I didn't have homework I would be in blender or eclipse right now chopping through my program or artwork. But we all

know what are excuses and what are actual laziness. And in this case, it is both... Please, Someone, hire a hitman to kill me. I will pay you back in hell after you die as well.

You may be thinking that 3 days of constant youtube maybe a bit too overkilled and unbelievable. And I want to tell you, you are darn right. Within those 42 hours of whatever I'm doing, I also played Rocket League. I want to swear... I don't know why, but everything I get any kind of holiday, I just throw them up and wait for the next one. I always plan so many things for the holidays and those goals are darn realistic, but I just end up on Youtube most of the time. I can't explain myself. Let's just not talk about it.

Although life is interesting, I still have bio to study and an essay to fix before I get a B+ again and freak out. So, I guess I need to end it here, peace.



Yay, computer crashed, file lost

Through Thanksgiving, my parents picked me up a computer. It literally went like this:

Me: Mum, my computer's charging port died

An new computer, Black Friday (2018-11-26 19:40)

Good news, My grades are rising(as long as I don't get so obsessed with my website again). I actually ditched my website. I had thought about it. The finals are 3 weeks away and although everything in this new school is comparatively easy as hell, I honestly didn't put in enough effort. It is mostly because I just overlooked the complexity of some subjects because they are genuinely just super easy.

I do think starting every single vlog with a grade update will just lose the appeal and reveal myself as a typical high-schooler. Although I am one with typical grades as well, I always like to think of myself as a special type of student. I had self-taught coding, realism in art, video production, animation, 3d modeling, and CGI. I see myself as that one special kid that isn't special because of his or her grade, and that is also why I decided I wanted to start my own website and start doing freelance. I wanted to be special and the incidents where high school students which average grades get into A-list college because of their extra-curricular activities really boost my confidence to believe all my extra-skills in whatever I am good at really helps. And because I like to be special, I see a big problem in just starting every blog with "my grades died, goodbye, I'm going to attend its funeral now". I mean I actually could care about this blog, cuz if I do, I would not be able to continue it. But on the other hand, I want to look back a few years later to see some substantial blogs. I guess it is not possible, whatever.

Mum: Ok, Black Friday is coming, just choose a new computer and I will buy it for you.

Me: (disfunctioned)

I actually cannot react to that. I got my first computer when I decided myself that I would write an essay about why I want and need a computer. I got my second computer when I actually for once did well at school. And now you are telling me that I get a computer because my previous one just died? I cannot wrap my head around that. With that said, I took that offer of my parent graciously and chose to buy a ThinkPad x1 extreme. Did I waste my parent's money on that thing? Yes, I did. You can use the same money from that computer to buy another computer that is 3 times as fast. But they said to buy one that I like, and my most disliked color on laptops is red and silver. I guess I can only waste money when buying laptops.

I noticed that my English is slowly becoming less and less radical and I can no longer speak. Although not one person on earth would be reading this, I don't want to waste google's server storage space so I would stop bs-ing. Bye,



Haider Jamal Abbasi (iAMHJA) (2020-04-18 07:31:39)

- [1]PUBG Name Generator
- [2]Best Kahoot Names
- [3]Google Question Hub

1. <https://www.iamhja.com/2019/01/pubg-names-generator.html>
2. <https://www.iamhja.com/2020/04/best-kahoot-names.html>
3. <https://www.loudupdates.com/2020/04/what-is-google-question-hub-beginner.html>

Title (2018-11-30 18:24)

Leaving this blog for yesterday was an accident. I missed it because I had set a goal of sleeping at 10 and by the time I finish my stuff, it was already 12 o'clock. Bad days are annoying. Nevertheless, I would try to continue this streak of blogging and would try not to break it this time around.

Literally 11 posts into my blog and I am already running out of art to display... This is an inktober artwork that I did for inktober, really self-explanatory

For the last 4 days, I had put down my non-fiction book because I had just gave up. But in the same time, I found a book called *The Shadow of the Wind*. This book proves to be very interesting as it started with a mystery that really grab holds my mind. Although the starting of this book isn't a suspense filled as the other's I read. But the main mystery was kept intact even till one-fourth into the book. I have read a lot of books in the past and I have never read a book that uses its suspense like in a marathon. Details about the mysteries are slowly leaked and the reader can piece more and more puzzles together, (I notice that I am using too much metaphors, just calm down).

(No Title) (2018-11-27 12:41)

Another day had past and I still don't know what I am focusing on in my blog. The only purpose I have this blog is so that I could write English everyday and improve it eventually. I don't know if it is working or if it is making me worse, but I will still continue. Today was nothing special, unless I open the youtube app and spend 2 hours on it.

(I don't have anything to say, so I am going to just talk about this). Compared with the non-fiction book called *The virtue of selfishness*, the book I am reading now is way more interesting. I don't know if it is just me, but everytime I read a non-fiction, I always find the content repeating. After they address their concept in the first 5 chapters, the whole 5 chapters would then repeat itself. Although I know they do reaffirm their stand-point after

Today I will talk about how I almost died. story ended, cuz i'm dead. I don't want to type no more, so that's it.

their initiative, I just can not force myself in reading their opinion again and again.

I have skipped 2 days of blog in favor of youtube, but I am sure that I would improve and this thing is very cringy, so I will stop

1.2 December

(2018-12-04 19:14)

The weekend had just pasted and the project that is due tomorrow is still not done yet. For that project, I need to do a poster and prepare for a presentation. I do not know what to do know since I don't even have the poster paper to start off with. With that said, because of how unproductive I was during the weekend, I wasn't even able to post a poorly written blog. And because this blog is more important than my grade, I decided to save my blog over my grades... I am going to die.

As much as I want to talk gibberish about my grades for 500 words, I won't allow myself. So, I guess I will talk about my sudden improvement in art. Through last summer, I gained a lot of skills: I made my first program, learned 2 programming languages legitimately(I have attempted to learn them for 4 years now, it's not even funny), and also I had one week that I uploaded vlogs constantly. And although programming doesn't really relate to any art form(don't argue with me), my art improved by a huge amount. And I really mean by a huge amount. From needing reference images to being able to sketch from the ground up. From the fascination that I had, I tried to explain the effect. The only explanation I came up with is that because programming had helped me develop a peaceful mindset. During my process of programming, I often run into stupid mistakes that takes me hours upon hours to fix. The most common mistake is not realizing a class or API. With the frustration getting to me every day and spending hours re-reading the same codes, I developed

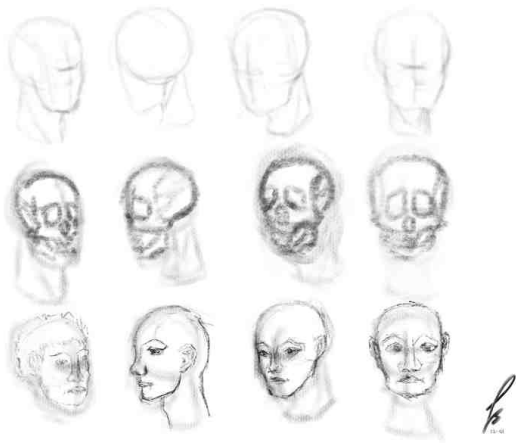
a peaceful mindset where I could solve stupid problems without going to get McDonalds or food. In my perspective, this new peaceful mindset of mine helped me do art.

Although this new peaceful mindset had helped me with my artistic abilities, it also comes with not so great side-effects because I can't control myself. Because of this peaceful mindset, I am no longer afraid of quizzes and tests. The usual me that reviews every day, every minute, became a student that does the bare minimum. Being minimal isn't too bad, but like everything, my abilities fail every now and then. And when you fail while doing the bare minimum, you drop below your desired result. There is no wriggle room allowed in a bare minimum situation. The past semester doing the bare minimum and generating a lot of free time.

Free time is always the one that is dreamed off and planned detailly to each specific detail. When I don't have free time, I always stack up plans to do when I have free time. This list includes sketching, art proportion studies, re-programming pokemon, and doing 3d sculpting. Anyone of these activities would satisfy my desire for being productive, but instead doing what I want to do, I mostly end up on Youtube, mesmerized by videos of completely stupid and useless subjects.

With this new characteristic of mine, it comes with its ups and downs. To say I'm ungrateful for it would not be right, but I am not grateful for it either.

P.S: Because I slept at 3 yesterday, I didn't had time to just upload and post this as I thought I would. So today would have two blog because this was supposed to be posted on yesterday. not that anyone would care. but I thought to just put it out there.



The only thing productive during the weekend(2.5 days)

Finals / The Fountainhead Book Oversight (2018-12-05 22:00)

Finals are coming up and I have not reviewed it yet. The A-s that I labored got is not fading away from my eyesight and gone after I take the final. Please attend my funeral for my grades and then pray for me after, I would appreciate it.

Back to topic, I need to choose a thing to talk about again today and I am losing out of ideas. If I would have organized things that I have to say about and pace it like I care, this would not happen. And because I did not do that, I now am stucked with doing nothing.

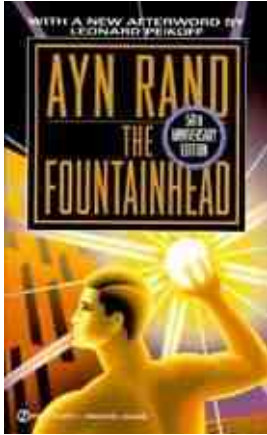
Five minutes later... I will talk about the philosophy behind The Fountainhead. Overall, I need to say that this book is super good. This is the first book that showed me how a fiction is able to teach morals and qualities to other people. In this book, the most interesting about it is that it demonstrated the immense power struggle. The power that is demonstrated is how people present themselves and stand up against problems. Because of that,

the lack of power in one character is solely because of their own will and lack of passion. From that, the book demonstrated very good power struggle between characters that make you look down at yourself and not blaming others. I learned that phrases such as "It is not my fault", "It is out of my capabilities", and "It's not me" should not be used. There are always ways to become better and just wining and blaming would not do anything well. In addition, the way that characters in the book make bold choices also inspired me. Although these character's boldness is a little bit out of hand and too extreme, it is a very rare and good quality that I look up towards. For example, when the main character is caught in a rough situation in the story, he doesn't blame anyone, he doesn't think its anyone's fault. The character is able to clearly identify that he isn't wrong and that other's are not wrong as well. The character clung on to his ideas as he is sure that he is right while other characters are contrasted and juxtaposed with him. Other characters in the book would have subtle qualities that would suggest they blame issues on other people. And what is passionate about this is that both of those types of people are successful in the story. Although the author didn't intend to include this philosophy as I read her other philosophy books, what I got from the book is that you having the wrong attitude in life doesn't mean you would not succeed. If you like to only bribe your way out of things or use your charm as a shield, the world still strays away for you, but the only downside is that you are hollow inside because you are feeding off from other people's ability and tolerance.

With that being said, I, again, have a stack of homework that I left till the last minute. My summary of the philosophy behind The Fountainhead doesn't even contain any portion of what the book said, but it is my best effort of explaining it within a time crunch(I have hw). To get the most out of the philosophy of the author of The Fountainhead, Ayn Rand, you would have to read one of her novels or non-fiction yourself. Most of her books repeat the same main central concept, so if you are

not a book nerd, one book from her would be enough to understand her standpoint.

I highly recommend her books and now I need to do hw (Best outro ever).



Not that anyone would care, but sorry, I ran out of art :(

Preparing For A Musical Audition (2018-12-08 21:00)

It had been another day, I am stuck with writing another blog in front of my stupid yoga book that is very annoying to type on. I am repeating this phrase so much in my intros of blogs that I might just copy and paste this every time. With that being said, I will once again update you guys, whoever you are on my grades. Since last time, another subject of mine went to an A, so that is always good.

[1]



A poster from the internet featuring Chicago the play

I am planning on auditioning for my school's upcoming musical. To ensure my acceptance in the main role in this musical, I am now training my singing once again. Back like 4 years ago, I was in my school's choir and the choir of that school is actually decent. Now when I look back, that choir from my primary school is better than the choir from my current high school. It is very amusing. The only reason that I think of that could explain this is that because students from the primary school have a more un-developed voice and it helps them shape it as they train it. In addition, our choir teacher was extraordinary. The conductor we had was so good that we had a chance with other choirs with personal teachers for each student. If there were a movie about the competition my primary school has with this other school, it won't be anything but greatness. The equals of our performance would make a great show just like glee, except its actually a real story. Speaking of glee, I am pretty sure my sister loved glee exactly because she had a very similar experience in her primary school life.

Back on topic, I am not preparing for the musical audition. To do this, I am not doing vocal warm-up and training almost every day. This new habit of mine is a ton of fun, singing although is time-consuming if you want to do it seriously, but at the same time, this exact trait of it makes you use your time chunk by chunk just like playing video games, just that it's more productive in my opinion. With that said, I need to admit that I now am just focusing on the fun of practicing singing and not really improving it too much. Through 4 days of consecutive practicing, my notes are more stable when changing between them. (You're right, I don't know any terms for singing). Although that is an improvement that is made, the audition is 2 months away and I am pretty sure I need to improve at a much greater pace to get a leading role. On top of that, I can't forget to train my actual acting skills. I have never participated in a

real play before, and a musical for my first try would be pretty overwhelming, to say the least. But abilities are forced out, so I am going to practice and try to get this freaking role. Btw, the play that is going to be held is Chicago, wish me luck for the next 2 month.

With the finals coming up, my schedule is full and I am still not being productive. But the past is the past, and I will make sure I would do good review tmr and not to miss so many blogs in the future.

1. https://1.bp.blogspot.com/-R51jBJCT1Kw/XAyRUrX9zyI/AAAAAAAAADXO/2mJ_bbuQ8CgJgJUD3tpAW_KDXwRUgG60gCLcBGA/s/s1600/27021396_1781321385245518_1548678897793106182_o.jpg

Lenovo X1 Extreme / Finals (2018-12-15 23:37)

I had skipped a whole week of blogging because I didn't feel like it and not because I didn't have time. Although last week wasn't the most productive week ever, it isn't that boring either. Because the week is the week before the finals, and the second last week till the winter holidays, everyone was happy yet serious. Till this day, I didn't know there's such a thing. Although because of the nature of an international school and people aren't really that chocked up by finals, people still cared more they used to. Classmates that normally don't message me for help now does.

On another topic, my new computer just came and it is awesome. My constant 77wpm on a mechanical keyboard became an 85wpm constant. On top of that, I finally have a gpu to work with. While I had been doing video editing and compositing for the last 3 years, I had been working with integrated graphics all those times. If you are going to ask me how I managed, the answer is that I don't know. I was used to programs crashing

every 5 minutes when under load (and on an integrated graphics gpu, it is always under load), freezing every time I apply an effect, devices detaching because they wanted to. But all those will change now, I now own a GTX 1050 Ti. Although this is nothing near to the fastest, the increase in speed is so much that I don't even know if I could complain. What struck me the most is that the increase in speed both in gpu and cpu didn't really make that much of a difference in the everyday task. Most of the tasks that I do on a computer only get decreased 1 to 20 second. To have such an expensive system to work with is kind of a luxury that nobody needs. But I am going to use this computer for graphics and computing as well, so I guess I am not so much wasting money anyways. A lot of money had been put into the computer's look and I don't think that is a waste. To have a computer that people doesn't associate with being playful is useful and shouldn't be looked down upon (my bad english is returning again).

Because I ran out of things to talk about my new computer, I am going to resume on what I said in the introduction. My classmates came from everywhere to ask me about stuff. You need to know, I am no longer that kid that does nothing except reviewing. On top of the programming and drawing that I sort of do regularly now, I also resumed gaming as well. Although I don't get as much satisfaction anymore from gaming, it is the best way to kill time in my opinion. You get to just stare at a screen and immediately get entertained (the side effects comes after). While work always decreases the entertainment level of games, nothing ever hinders your desire for it. Games are just a miracle in its own unique way. Back to what I was saying, people are starting to ask me for help, and I could only answer them while thinking of how bad I really am. Although I am still able to answer all the questions that my classmates throw at me, I remember the things that I still didn't review whenever someone ask me things. But anyways, I am going to try to improve on that and balance out personal projects and my grades.

Overall, I am running out of time again and I need to go back to reviewing and securing my grade. Cause if I don't, I don't think I could live with myself throughout my winter break.

Finals Day 1 (2018-12-18 23:03)

The first day of Finals is coming to an end and I was playing games for the last 4 hours. Am I smart, maybe not really. Tomorrow's test is going to be English and my English now is no longer the one with 5 page long essays. In a way this is a good thing because I don't need to write essays within one and a half hour, the bad thing is that there are definite right or wrong answers now. In the past, my score goes with my teacher's mood and the smartness of me of that day. Right now, it is just me and my revision, nothing else. What makes things worse is that I think I know everything about the books that I am going to be tested on, but I still don't feel confident. Re-reading the 2 books now is now logical and just going through the notes won't really help me that much.

What I am going to talk about today is that how hard it is to review for some certain subjects. Although all subjects could be technically be reviewed for, some other subjects really confuse me on how exactly would I be doing that. For English, I used to just not review for them and just based on luck. Last year, I got vocabs to review for because the vocabs had became more difficult for me. But other than that, I mostly just listen to music on my earphones. The problem this year is that I no longer have my earphone and I can't just kill time. So, I resorted to actually reviewing for the exam and that brought me to this problem. First off, as I said, I couldn't re-read the book, cause I won't be able to finish it and conclusions are pretty useless. I tried summarizing the poem that I am going to be tested on, but I gave up halfway. The new computer allowed me to type an "essay" in my blog, but I don't think

that would help too much either. The blog was designed to have a long-term impact and not a short boost of "English Skill" for me to take on exams. The second methods of reviewing English that I thought of is to discuss the book with friends, but that is kind of not possible for me. "I need friends" (Justice League). [btw, Justice League is a very bad movie. I know]. The thing is that your friends would not be able to have time to talk about a book that you choose because you think it helps you with your final. People mostly actually take English test without preparation. And I don't see any problem with that. (At this point, I am running out things to say, but I want to stretch this out because This is what I am good at, talking trash. And what I say trash, it is trash. Whatever, let's continue. The third way of reviewing English is to do sat practices. The problem with this method is that it is a long-term thing as well. Doing a couple questions the day before the test won't help you that much. So, in conclusion, there is nothing that you could do to prepare for the English test when it is only a couple hours away. Although there are the literal thing that you are going to be able to do, those things would be useless. If you think otherwise, please tell me, cause I really want comments on my blog because I know that no one is reading them. And if anyone is going to be reading this, I would be very happy.

Moving on, the second topic that I will talk about today is my new computer. I know that I had already talked about my new computer on my last blog two days ago, but I want to add something because I can not think of anything to talk about. With my new computer, I could finally play 1080 games with 60fps. And although the computer is so big that it makes my old razer blade stealth feels like a baby, it packs a lot of power. No so much like gaming laptops, but it is enough to have me impressed by it. The best thing about it is the design. Although thinkpads are old-fashioned machines, the design of my x1 extreme is able to hit the modern design language while keeping the thinkpad tradition. With the soft touch material and the nub being in the middle of the keyboard, I would think that It is impossible to

make it look modern. But somehow the use of sharp angles and the new layout of the keyboard makes the computer look modern again. In my opinion, this design of the thinkpad is even better than the dell xps 15.

I am near home now, And I don't think I could continue typing, so I am going to stop it here and stop the blog. The blog is definitely improving my English and I would definitely continue it. But with that said, I still don't know how to conclude and end a blog, so imma just gonna end it here, peace, bye, goodbye, esta luego (I don't know how to spell it).

Finished Finals / Website Update (2018-12-20 18:37)

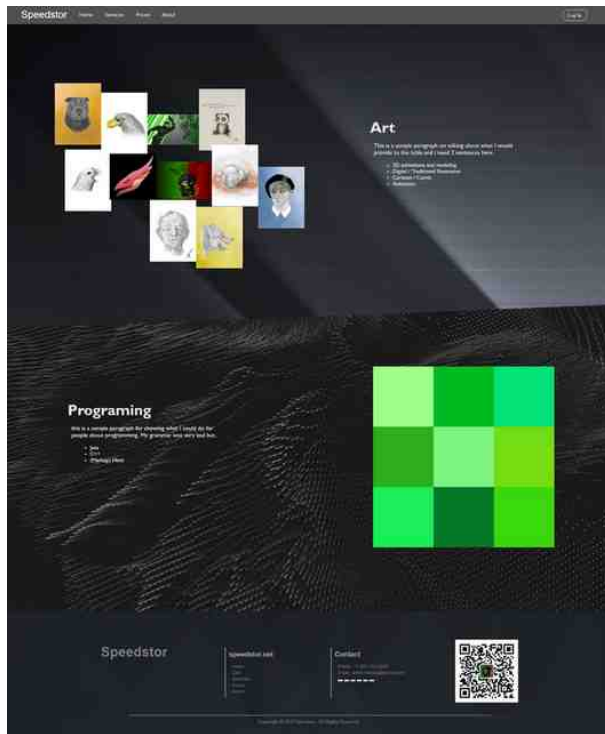
Finals had passed, finally. I no longer need to worry about my grade because it is already dead, jk. Let's do another one of my grade updates cuz I'm interesting. Firstly, the main thing is that all my subjects are now on or above 92 and only one of the subjects is an A-. The only subject to fall below A for me in Spanish which I had no idea how it was possible, but everything is still fine. I got a 97 on the test and 100 with extra credits in the Final, that's a mouth-full. I got a 99 in Biology and it is definitely not because the teacher treated me unfairly. Like I ofc could get 99 on my own, don't freaking question me. The only thing you need to be aware of is that I had never bribed the teacher, that's all.

With Finals being a thing in the past, I finally have time for my website and finish it before my birthday. I only have 2 more pages to go for my website as I finish one of them today. Although I do really think that html and css is the easiest thing in the whole entire world, it doesn't mean that it is a very simple and fast thing to get rid of. While I could type a whole webpage without even caring, I normally take a day to finish a page of the website. The reason behind this is that website is supposed to be built with a program and with sliders, but because I want to do

everything from the ground up and building a website builder is not a thing I want to do, I typed my whole webpage up. The values that are needed to be put in are now done by dead trying every single number until it is right. After trying 10 and finding it is too small, I switch to 14 and found out that it is too big, and then I switch back to 13 to find that it is still a bit too big, and finally I would switch the number to 12. Although this might seem to be a very short process, when it is put into a context of switching windows and pressing f5 every single number change, a simple task could take a long time. (I notice that my English isn't really making the most sense right now, but just stick with me here) Because of how css is a stupid markup language, I could only try and try and try. Resulting in me using a whole day to finish one webpage. Either way, it is still a good practice of patience.

The final product of the webpage I did today isn't the best in the world because I really didn't want to put in such effort for some dumb task, but it is still responsive and user-reaction-friendly. There are pop up and examples that demonstrate everything. So, yeah.

Now, I need to move on to practicing my drawing skills so that if I really somehow get a client, I could deliver what I promised.



The webpage that I did today. Pictures are still not yet included, its fine

Kenneth (2019-02-02 07:56:42)

I highly suggest that you take up the subject that you really like. Computer Science and/or Arts are your talent. There is nothing simple, there are many things you may not know or depth enough.

The Shadow of the Wind | Book Review (2018-12-28 18:24)

Although I am not a book nerd, I enjoy a vast range of books. From non-fiction to fantasy, I find much joy in reading through them. Lately, I read the book *"The Shadow of the Wind"*, and it is such a fun and enjoyable book that I actually for once wanted to write a review about it. The story started off with a young boy called Daniel getting a book that is mythicized by his dad. While his dad knew nothing about the book this boy got, he told him to protect it and

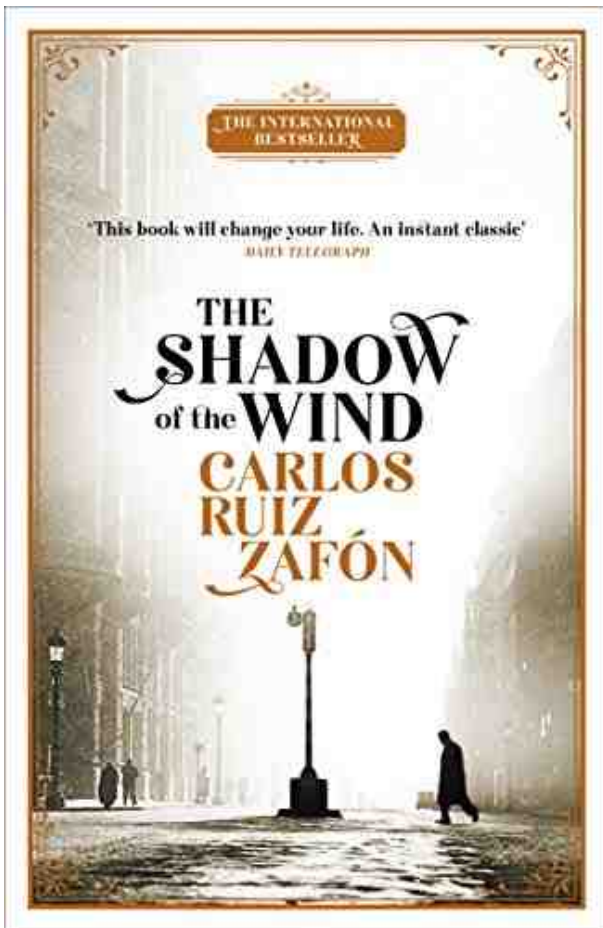
not to let any other people get it from him. Although this didn't much in the start, it greatly foreshadowed the suspenseful rest of the book. I went into this book thinking is just another book illustrating a boy who loved books, but I finished it with awe and disbelief in how colorful the story is despite its dark nature. This story by filling the reader with complex plot elements and contrasting characters created its own universe while only having the story take place on the Earth that we are all living in.

The first and most stand-out part of this book is its suspense. Most books contain suspense, and without it a book will never be finished. This is a sad fact that anyone needs to admit. If you could look in the mirror and say to yourself that you could entertain yourself with a non-fiction book, you are lying. Although suspense is plentiful in most books, this one made it fresh. In all the books that I had read in the past, most of them use multiple arches that are roughly smashed into each other to extend the suspense and in return the book. If a story consists of only one narrative, the length of it normally falls short. This story is different, except a letter that concluded the story at the end, the entirety of the plot line focused only Daniel's perspective and the story doesn't feel dull. With only one big mystery throughout the book, it paced the story well enough to sustain that suspense that dragged me on even when I was tired. And I was tired only because I was reading it at two in the morning.

In addition to the wellful paced suspense throughout the book, the book also offers a great mystery. Unlike most books, this story contains one mystery that branch out to several puzzles of their own and they don't feel separated. All the pieces of puzzles tie together seamlessly and you won't feel being thrown around between story arches while reading the book. I have never felt lost in place throughout the book and each mystery and puzzle are not obvious while being very interesting. To read the book is like to be part of it and although a lot of book does this really good, *The Shadow of the Wind* does an even better job of this.

And because of my procrastination problems,

I will just end it here. After the second paragraph, I had already lost passion for finishing this book review. Not that its any problem with the book but all because of me. To be honest, for a book to make me want to write a book review about it is already very good, so if you are craving for a book to read lately, I strongly recommend *The Shadow of the Wind*.



I didn't even know why I believed in myself for finishing a book review.

Wasting time (2018-12-29 23:22)

Like any of the previous holidays, it all starts with me just being hyped out on what I could do during this awesome chunk of free time that I am going to have. I could finally grind art or type hours upon hours of code without caring about my grades or homework. It is the one thing that I looked forward to that always ends up with me just wasting most of that "awesome" time. When it is during the school year, I always blame the amount of homework that I have for the lack of creative stuff that I do during this time, but when the time comes and I am blessed with a month-long holiday, I end up trashing it to pieces with my marvelous ability to just waste time. For someone that is not that interested in games and can hardly spend more than 2 hours in front of a computer screen playing games, you might think that I would be very productive. But the reality is that I also have a very dumb ability to stare at pictures after pictures of meaningless frames of videos. You see, the reason that I am not that found of video games is that you need to constantly use your brain in order to win, and if you don't win, the game isn't fun. So, when playing games, you are faced with a dilemma, either you want to win and sacrifice your brain during your free time, or you lose every game while being brainless. In both cases, they are not ideal for me. With that in mind, I also don't like doing actual stuff during free time, because, they, same as the backbone of winning anything is that you need to use your brain. For me, I don't want to use my brain. If my brain is enough to supply me the consciousness of breathing and maintaining my heartbeat, I have no further problem with it. Ultimately, my desire to become a brainless being ends with two big obstacles: boredom, and guilt.

Although when you go brainless to stare at a moving canvas of frames after frames of pictures does allow time to pass by relatively quickly, and sometimes too quickly, this repetition of motionless brain-dead action would become boring after a short while(one and a half full week). And because of this

boredom of youtube and movies finally hit me, I now am stuck with nothing to do while being limited to activities that don't require my brain to fire neurons at all. To me a month ago, this would be the easiest task in the whole entire universe, but to me now is a downright difficult task. I've tried sleeping the whole day through, watching basketball games, reading basketball analysis while having no interest in it at all, watching 4 movies a day, and forcing myself to play losing games. All the things that you could think of that allowed my brain to be asleep had been tried by me. Hell, I even tried doing low-quality art to kill time itself. Btw, it only succeeds for 2 hours and I'm back to square one. While not using your brain might be an easy task, to keep yourself entertained in parallel with that is harder than being focused during class.

I've just gone to cut my hair because it is too distracting. That may be the single most productive thing I had done the whole week.

As I said, the second obstacle to the whole not using your brain equation is that you will feel guilt always. When you go mindlessly during a video, your brain has so less to process that the things that you could be doing come up to your brain seamlessly. There is just no way to ignore the fact that you had planned yourself an eventful holiday ahead of time and now is watching youtube 24/7. While even more youtube and videos would solve the problem periodically, the guilt returns when you go to sleep. While I look up at total darkness in my room, I start thinking about how I had done nothing besides eating that day. I start hating myself at night and setting a 7 am alarm for the next day just for me to sleep till 1 pm and have the cycle repeat itself. This all sounds like it is a routine of a jobless dude in a wasteland that somehow got a phone to access youtube, but it is happening on me. I just cannot accept myself being like that, and at the same time, I am also continuing my stupid acts. To be unproductive is very satisfying at first, but after any sort of self-reflection, I am faced with my own frustration that although is very easy to overcome, is not ever overcome.

It's just stupid. I am stupid. and this blog post is stupid.

But anyways, I am posting this to hopefully end this herocious act of my own and actually do something useful for my last week of holiday. I am most likely to just fall back into that never-ending cycle, but as any cliché hero would be, I am hopeful for my hopeless future holi-days.



Only thing I did during the winter break, and 99 % of this is actually did during the school year

My Birthday (2018-12-31 01:00)

Although it's not like that anyone reads my blog in any way, I'm gonna tell you guys that today is my birthday The one day that is same with any other day but with the difference being the presents you are given and received. In honesty, I didn't have any sort of feeling of being special when I woke up today. This day is identical to my normal days, and the reason that this day is actually significant is that we

as rational beings like to remember how old we are. Without birthdays, we may all be like an old dude that cannot remember how old he is. When you think about it, if your parents hadn't told you about when you are born and the world doesn't have birth certificates, you will not even know your birthday. With that said, that is the ridiculous part of birthdays. On this day, you could be unlucky, productive, lazy, busy or free. It is just another day that we have to live through to experience the importance of wasting time. Ok, not everyone wastes time, but at least I do, so there you go.

I don't hate birthdays, and because of all the presents that I had gotten for the last 16 years, I love them. Because I'm young and fortunate to be in a wealthy family, this particular day is that day that I get free stuff which I had dreamt of for an entire year. This year, I got one step up and gotten one of the most expensive gifts in my whole lifetime excluding my tuition for school. One of the many and main reasons that I got that gift this year is because I attended an easier school. When thinking of it one way, I had worked less in school but got a higher score in return. My attitude for learning didn't change much in my opinion, but I have definitely put extra-curricular activities more up the priority compared to my previous years.

Although I do have a lot more to talk about in regard to birthdays and how pumped I am for my birthday presents, I am too lazy to type all those things out on the day that is marked my birthday so I will leave the blog here. There is no person on the planet that is as lazy as me.

Kenneth (2019-02-02 07:31:50)

I don't think that you are lazy. In fact, I think that you need more confidence on yourself.

In my eye, you are unique, clever, kind and powerful.

Improvements (2018-12-31 23:08)

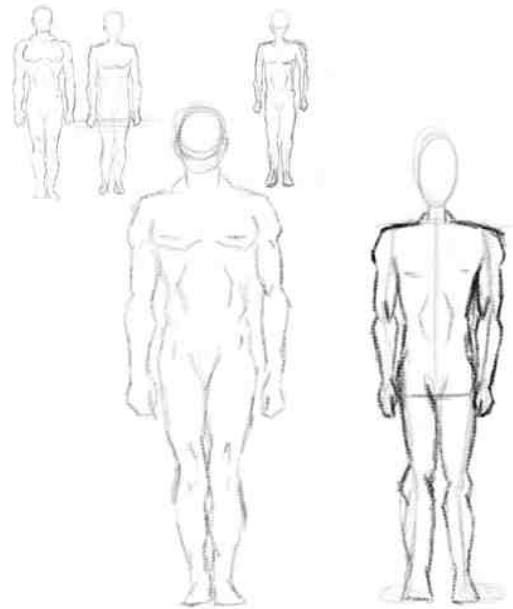
Looking back on the blog post I did that is titled "Wasting Time", I found out that I wasn't that bad anyways. On that post, I went over how I had wasted half of my holiday without even knowing it and illustrated my frustration to keep finding ways to waste time. That two sentences don't sound right, but I will let it be. What do I mean by "wasn't that bad"? The phrase "wasn't that bad" is used by me because I improve a lot to previous holidays of mine. Recurring to my previous holiday, I still remember how I struggle to write when picking up a pen at the end of the holidays. As anyone would, my previous holiday consists of me doing my holiday homework in the last week, and as I said, I couldn't even hold on to a pen correctly. I struggled writing neatly to impress new teachers as I was going to have a new English teacher due to the bias teacher I had the previous semester. I was going to talk about how improvements are very important in life and how I should keep improving, but I am just going to talk about my beloved English teacher now.

My first English teacher in 9th grade loved me, and I do say it literally. Although my English isn't top notch (plz refer to my first two sentences in this blog), this teacher gave me 80 - 100 on my homework just for my effort. While I do put in much effort into my homework and especially English, I can find flaws in my homework myself. One of the many examples of this is the homework that I have that consisted of three or so questions for each chapter of a book. Although I told myself that I would answer each question as if they were on an exam when I first got the packet, I slacked off in the end like everybody else. All that is left in my homework is good handwriting. And this "good handwriting" isn't even that good when compared to my classmate's handwriting. You may say that I put in effort in writing those bunch of letters, but you need to know that I did not put the effort in the practical answer itself. When the teacher received my packet and mark it, he listed a bunch of things that he was impressed

with. At this point, I am either super smart or just super loved by the teacher. Just some months later, I ended up with two 90s in the mid-term and final which led me to the move-up test.

My move-up test was ridiculously dumb. You need to know, the holiday that went before this test is the same holiday that I struggled to write during the end of it. To be honest, I couldn't even pronounce English words correctly during the end of that holiday, but somehow I passed that super difficult move-up test. This test was failed by millions, and even the strongest, straight A students had trouble with it, but somehow, I, as a stupid, dumb 9th grader that is an underdog in most cases passed this freaking test. This is unbelievable. I couldn't believe it. In the end, I came into the reason that the teacher that gave me all hundreds in the previous semester was the cause of this. Maybe this teacher hated me that much that he just gave me all perfect scores and contacted the teacher of the higher level English class just to let me pass the move-up test. This is dumb. But like anything, I found out that it is just that the teacher wanted to teach me next year in Honors+ English that he pushed me up to Honors+ before he won't have the chance to do so.

I may have sounded a bit harsh in this blog. And that is due to my desire to sleep now, I love that teacher and he did teach in the best method known to me. He went over his own material million times by himself and only gave us the best treatment in class. And although it seems to be that he was bias toward me, he did treat his students very equally. It may just because I love this teacher so much that I think he loves me too, lol, I don't know what I'm saying anymore. But I need to sleep, so Imma gonna sleep now, so bye. This blog is weird, I hope no one reads this. And the fact is that no one does, so that's great, yay, bye, I'm weird.



My attempt in trying to learn and practice human autonomy

Kenneth (2019-02-02 06:44:07)
You are not weird, you are GREAT indeed

2. 2019

2.1 January

Birthday Presents (2019-01-07 15:23)

Days had passed and I got my birthday presents which are great btw. I got a raspberry pi and a levis wallet. To give you some context, I used to use a wallet from a dollar store and I never had anything that could give out digital signals. Although an Arduino would be easier to work with, a raspberry pi could do much more so I'm happy. On a side note, I also met my family after a whole half year studying aboard. It is great seeing them again even though its only just for a week.

During this short trip with my parents, I got to go to Las Vegas to enjoy the food and experience the cold breeze. Las Vegas to me is always that super busy city that people get drunk at and gamble their way to death. But after visiting there, I saw that it is nothing like that, instead, the poker tables are all empty along with the other gambling games. The whole place is filled with expensive restaurants and brand shops. Along the side of Las Vegas, we went to the outlets that serve relatively cheap things from reputable brands. I, myself, got two jeans from my parents and they are great as always. While I grow up hating jeans, my view on them had changed after I cared more about my looks. A couple of years ago, I wouldn't mind even to change my clothes for weeks.

I don't have anything to say anymore, so I am going to leave this here. Bye

Kenneth (2019-02-02 06:51:36)

Dress up and looks nice. This give one more confidence.

I know you have very good content in your inner character. However, people do not know you will have a 1st insight with one outlook.

A good outlook also give you more confidence.

With both content and outlook, the life is more fun.

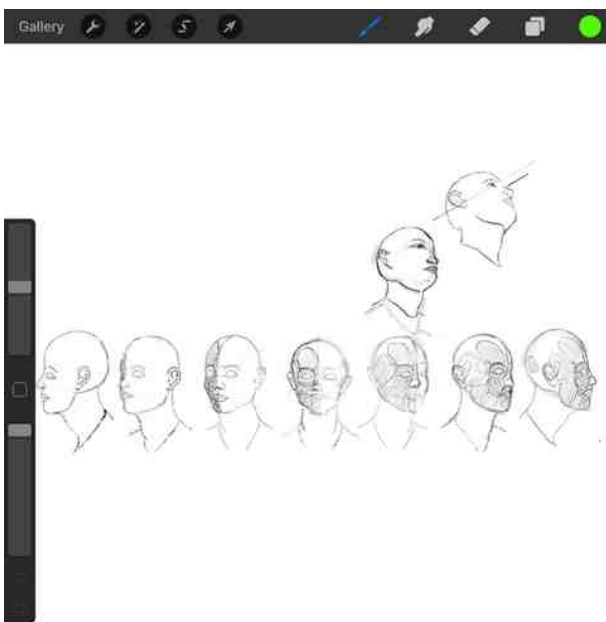
Back to School (2019-01-14 12:53)

As always, I again stopped posting blogs because I am very lazy. Although this blog serves absolutely no purpose at all in this world, keeping it going makes sure that my English abilities have a safety net under it. And on the topic of quality, I am going to rewrite all the blog I have posted before so that I could actually improve my English now. And while proof-reading isn't anything in my interest, I will at least be admitted from coming up a topic every single day. The downside of all this is that it would be a nightmare proof-reading crap. Like this blog now, all my previous blog are trash, and to repair trash is hard, to say the least.

Because I am not going to rewrite my blogs today, I need to think of a topic to fill in this page, and my first day of school after the winter break would be nice to talk about. After being suck of confidence after seeing my parents, I now again see how much I had to do to catch on. With some research, I found out that colleges in the US don't care that much about grades. As long as they don't suck, they don't pay attention to them a lot. What they care about is what you do outside of school and what you do to improve yourself personally. Just getting all A is difficult classes doesn't impress people that much anymore. As because our only soul job as a student is to be an all A student. Not being that is like not completing your job in a company. To stand out from the massive crowd of students, you need to do things outside of school and impress them with an essay. And this proves to be very challenging. While this also means that you don't need to focus on grades that much, it also means you need to do things that are no instructed. And for anyone that

had tried self-teaching themselves something, it becomes very challenging because you need to have self-integrity. And that I don't have. I may have no feelings and don't mind hard work, but getting myself on the desk regularly for long periods of time is hard because I would just drift off into space in my daydreams.

Life may be frustrating, but laziness is always present. So why not embrace it and stop the blog right here. Although all my blogs end with me saying I no want no more, laziness would comfort me after.



My human anatomy practice

Kenneth (2019-02-02 05:53:04)

Good grade is very important and I think that this is the most important factor. US college looks thru whole picture of you and therefore if you have good talent beside academic. This is

consider a big plus.

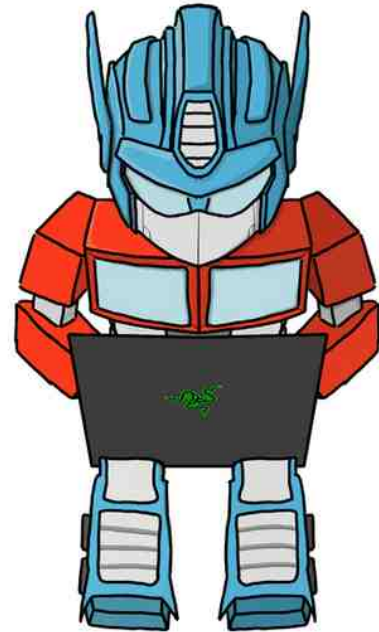
Get A in academic and also do extra thing that you love. You are very talent, love your talent things. This will always make you happy and love what you are doing.

Laziness (2019-01-22 12:24)

It's 7 days since my last post and I haven't done what I said I would do. It is a new year and the new me seems like he is not going to be productive all. During the 3-day holiday that had just passed, I had done nothing as always. Except the 2 sketches that I did, i practically did nothing. With all that said, I am just going to continue the bad daily blogs to play. If I keep trying to re-write my old blog, I am never going to post anything again. Which no one would care, but my English would die momentarily.

During the 3 day holiday I had, I discovered the junior doctor youtuber that I followed had a company along side with his band and 154wpm typing speed. He had achieved so much that it is making me jealous. Although I have my own website, my ambition to start a business soon, all my plans are still in the process and don't have any results to them. Specifically, my website doesn't even have pictures to it yet. Although all the html and css is written and ready to go, I never took the time to draw the pictures to go along with the website. It is always so easy to say what you do, but not to do as what you say. I had written to-do lists every single day, but the days that I actually did all the things on the list could be counted with just my fingers. With all that said, I am going to post my blogs on my own website alongside with here. Although the reason that I chose such a outdated blogging website is that I want to eliminate all possibilities at anyone finding it even if they wanted to, I would now try to reach out and improve the quality of my blogs. I know I had said that for a lot of times now,

but I am no longer saying I will not try when writing my blogs. That also means that I will embarrass myself a lot as I really don't have good grammar and contexts. If I say I will be trying, the things that I produce would already my limit and they would suck. But failure is part of the journey, so I would keep trying. Typing out paragraphs upon paragraphs about my life would help me be more disciplined, and some embarrassment won't mean much as long as I improve myself. Which, is not happening. But whatever.



One of the art that I did during the 3-day holiday

Hubris (2019-01-24 14:07)

Review on my birthday resolutions, I said that I would finish my website before my birthday, but that did not happen. Because of that, I would set a new deadline and that is before this month. There are still 9 days till that, and a couple of pictures and illustrations needs to be cramped in there. I will keep you guys(no one) posted and try my best.

Another blog is written again, and in my point of view, the quality of it had improved. I hope I would take back some kind of grind, no matter it is with art or programming.

Since I read a Chinese novel about an all-powerful kongfu disciple, I had set him as the person that I look up towards. Although he is only a fictional character, his one act in a battle inspired me to be better. While this character is mostly very humble, the scene which I remember him from is one of the most humble acts of his. What he did was very simple, he simply saved everyone that is fighting in an all-way death battle while keeping himself safe. Without him, all the people in the scene would just have died because of that fact that they keep attacking each other. His superiority upon all others inspired me to be just like him. What's more is that he never

try to display his power. Unless something resorts to violence, he would rather be called the weakest man alive then demonstrate how powerful he actually is.

Since the day I read that book, I tried to better myself, to learn more skills, to be good at more aspects. I dreamt of one day that I could hide my well-trained skill. What I always tell myself is that you need to have something to hide to actually hide stuff. Till this day, the things that I picked up is my drawing abilities, my coding skills and some of my musical abilities. While none of my abilities are anywhere near perfection, they are a lot better than what I started off with. My art receives compliments without me even trying, I am able to tell others that I self-taught myself coding and more. Looking back at everything that I have learned, I am very pleased with everything. To the 10-year-old me, this is the goal that I have long been wanting to achieve. But like everything, our desire adapts to what we have. The more that we possess, the more that we want. Now, I want to have a steady source of income that does not revolve around labor. Being a cashier and having a long-term source of income is lame to me. Being a typist that mindlessly type is lame to me. Just selling lemonade in the front yard to people that are interested just because you are a kid is lame to me. With that said, if you give me any of those jobs for me to do right now, I would fail them entirely and get fired probably within a week. I could not talk to strangers fluently, nor could I type 100 words per minute, nor could I even get my guts to put up a lemonade stand. The things that I despise of are the exact things that I could not achieve. This is also the same with art pieces. While I critic the arts that I see and tell myself that I do not want to become the artists that produce those arts. I myself could not draw those myself. I am constantly petty and I don't always do things about me. I am getting off topic, so I am just going to summarize myself here, although I have been trying to improve myself constantly, I still achieved a little and could not do the things that I want to.

On top of who I want to hide skills that I have,

I have followed a saying in the bible for a very long time. Although I don't read the bible a lot, this exact one line from it changed me drastically. This line illustrated that you shouldn't use evil to combat evil. If anything, anyone does something bad to you, you should never get revenge on them. If you are not able to return that evil action with love, you should leave it and present that nothing happened. This one line had guided me so far that a lot of people from my school in Shanghai treats me as the kindest kid in the entire grade. Classmates from other grades came to know me like that as well. Although my classes are all in the lowest level, smart kids treated me with respect. To be honest, this may just be my hallucination, but this is what I feel. I never cared if anyone makes fun of me, and most of the time, I end up helping those who do.

The reason that I brought this all up is that I again for the numerous times in the school see people just trying to be ahead of the teacher. I myself is guilty of this as well, but when others do it, it is more present in my eyes. And since I am bothered by it, I wanted to say something about it so this is it because I am too lazy.



Another practice sketches that I did in the span of 3 days

Kenneth (2019-02-02 07:23:21)

When I was at your ages, I cannot do so much like you now.

"This is Marketing - Seth Godin" (2019-01-25 11:05)

I used to find book reviews and the analysis of non-fiction book stupid. If the non-fiction book already gave out the information it wanted to, why is it needed to re-explain it on a blog or similar matter? Having a blog that no one reads, I now understand. After reading a book, it is most likely to have something to talk about it. And when that happens would want to type it out to the non-existent audience of mine. (me and you, I don't know which is which no more) I didn't type my thoughts of the book because I wanted to sound smart or explain my findings, I just want to get things off my chest.

Because I really don't care that much, I will do it the less interesting way.

"When the teenager was fifteen, he didn't have that much of transport problem. And plenty of teenagers make it through the college years without a car. This is a want, not a need" (Godin 687).

This line strikes me a lot because I always hear adults say how impossible it is to live without a car. And I always think that there are buses and buses carry us around just fine. Me, as a middle school student runs everywhere I want to go. If something is out of the running distance, I ignore it and not go there. Although that is not always true and sometimes I need a car to go to competitions, there is still the uber option. To be honest, this line doesn't really mean to much to the average person, it is just to me that a book-writing person had backed up my thoughts entirely.

"We're seeking our own little pocket of uniqueness" (Godin 687).

This line similar to the one before is special to me for a very specific reason. For my life, I

have avoided popular songs just to avoid them and just to be unique. This side of me made me miss out of a lot of songs, but that is what makes me. I strive to be unique all the time, And if something is too popular I will stop doing it. In the past, I pride myself on the fact that I stray away from youtubers more than a million subscribers. A small reason for this is that the videos of large channels are too polished for a single creator and it makes me jealous. The whole time, I was seeking my own little pocket of uniqueness. I made myself unique by brute force. And by doing it, I was still driven by the crowd, being driven the inverted way.

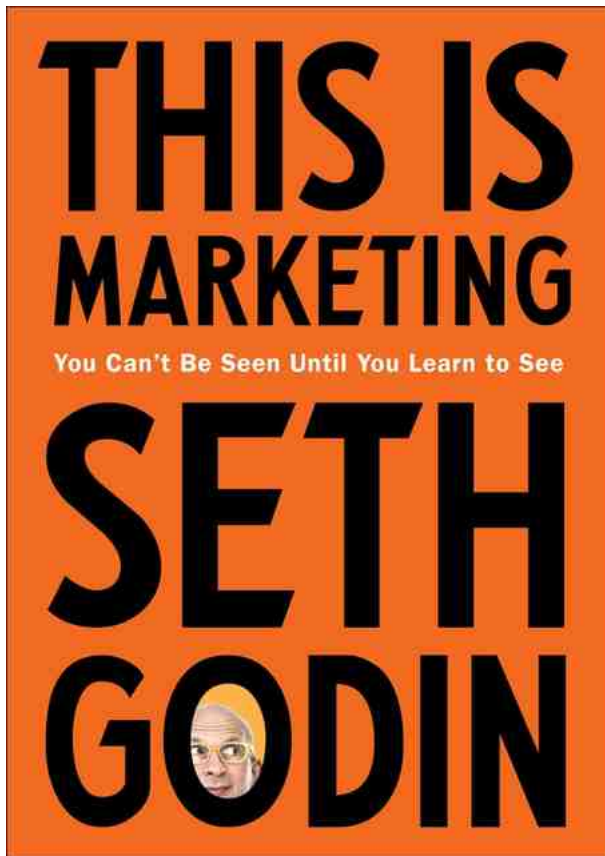
(Talking about yahoo, google and bing search engines)

'What (google) was better (than others) was that the search box didn't make you feel stupid" (Godin 908).

Although I don't have the slightest idea of why google was ahead of the game since search engines improve as more people uses it. This answer explains a lot to me. Google by providing just one search box compared with the thousands of links on Yahoo search, was more simple and "less stupid" to use. I never related design with quality. All the doctor's registration software are messy as hell, but nearly all doctors use the same software. The thousands of boxes and links on that software didn't seem to have frustrated them too much and so I concluded that quality needs to be separated from design. Design of a product is only a bonus and won't affect much to the consumer. Thinking back, the major reason that I was a razer fan-boy is not that I am a gamer, but is because their design is pleasing.

That is it, that is the insight that I have on the first third of the book. I didn't organize everything seamlessly because no one would read it anyways.

[1]



"This is marketing" book

1. https://2.bp.blogspot.com/-lnPR5TbyB3U/XEtPwiXm5YI/AAAAAAAAADbU/dosNfSSKdvUStdkF_80szyCJCsiBRUMUwCLcBGAs/s1600/71vseaezFCL.jpg

Kenneth (2019-02-02 05:43:27)

Yeah, standing out if the crowd is cool. Be yourself and do what you like for good. Be kind, and you will be sure for the uniqueness with joy and happy.

A Ramble about quotes from a book (2019-01-26 22:32)

Like yesterday, I finished a big chunk of "This is Marketing" by Seth Godin, specifically 33 % again. And also like yesterday, I have some thoughts about some of what this book says and want to get it off my chest before I go annoy some of my friends if I do have any at all.

"When people share their negative stories, they often try to broaden the response and universalize it. They talk about how 'no one' or everyone' will..." (Godin 1203).

This quote doesn't relate to me that much in contrast to the previous quotes that I responded to. This quote reminded me of how Youtubers indirectly complain about their comment section. Most of the time, YouTubers like to say that the negative comment doesn't affect anymore or that they don't see those comment as anything that is even worth their time. But, in my point of view, if anyone talks about how something doesn't affect them, that thing that they are talking about is already affecting them. That thing that they are talking about is making them have this feeling of power and that they have the power to ignore people. This is one of the many things that only exists if you don't talk about them. The second you want others to know about this bound topic, this special thing isn't that thing anymore. To put it into context, to tell everyone that you are humble will break your characteristics of being humble. The second that you talk about it, you are not humble about being humble. The second these YouTubers say that those comments don't bother them the single bit, they cared about these comments. I am getting off topic, this is nothing related to the quote. Back to what we... I am talking about. The typical negative youtube comment "broaden the response and universalize it". Although this is such a simple and obvious thing, I never notice it enough to actually point it out to myself.

"In the last few decades, we've gotten lazier in our nuance of warding status, preferring it to be related to either the dollars in a bank account or the number of followers online. But status continues to take many forms" (Godin 1522).

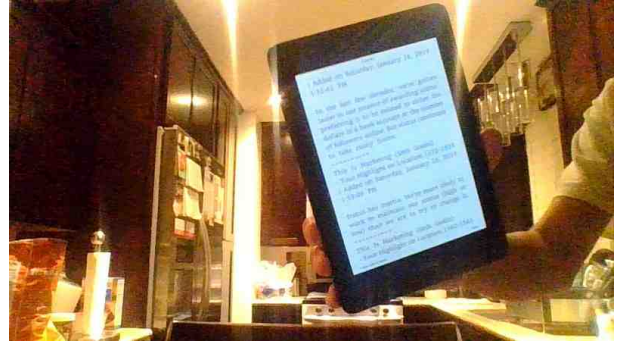
I really do not know what is wrong with me, I only feel awe in non-fiction only when it is about a personal experience, lol. Because this blog is one that I don't put that much effort into, I will just again talk about my personal experience. The reason that I highlighted this

on my kindle is the topic of "status". This author explains status in a very interesting way, in a way that he says it is "relative". I couldn't find a very direct short quote to explain his view of status. Basically, he sees the status as the respect, power, and authority that one person has. He pointed out that a middle-class blogger has a higher status than a millionaire because he got more influence on people. Of course, a millionaire can pay someone that has influence to influence people, but that is not the point. For me, although I was in the lowest and easiest classes in my school in Shanghai, I have a sort of high status in my school. Like I said in my previous vlog, I was famous for being the kind and good kid at school and most classmates treat me very good. I could justify bad actions just by agreeing on it. If someone has a joke about how Christmas is in January (typical boring high school jokes) and I agree on it, the friend that is being trolled would have nothing to say. Thinking back, I am not that kind nor good anyways. But back then, I have the status to change conversations and silence them as I want.

"Status has inertia. We're more likely to work to maintain our status (high or low) than we are to try to change it" (Godin 1532). This again is a personal experience. This author is such good at interpreting human response that I am a bit freaked out by it. In the book, he is constantly surprising me how he pin-points my behavior in life. It is in such extent that it is very scaring. His saying of how people would want to keep their status no matter what is very true. For me, I had been identified as the super skinny kid for most of my life, and when I get a little be fat (and which is healthy for me) I would freak out. I was so keen on keeping my status of being the most skinny kid that I didn't even care for my health no more. It is such striking to me that this marketer knows me more than myself.

That is all for today, and I will most likely finish the book tomorrow and write the last blog on it. If you are reading this, I am very

thankful for it but let's be honest here, no one would read this. Even the people that read had been little than ever, the possibility for anyone to read this is rounded to 0.



I don't have any picture to go along with this blog, but I wanted to include one. So this is a picture of the kindle that accompany me when I am bathing

Kenneth (2019-02-02 07:13:09)

Reading is good. You can get good knowledge from others experience.

I will also recommend reading Chinese History book or story. You will know how the 5000 years Chinese with it. It is very amazing I will told you.

Failing Musical Auditions (2019-01-30 22:24)

I screwed the audition up. I prepared everything but still didn't have everything go as planned. I got the notice of the school having a musical audition two months in advance. And although I didn't practice every single day for the last 2 months, I had dedicated a lot of time upon it. There are things that aren't worth the time, and my preparation for the musical may be one of the many of them.

My desire to audition for the musical came

from my soul heart of wanting to prove myself. I wanted to tell myself that part of the 12-year old me that was in an award-winning choir was still in me. I wanted to extend my qualification for my pride in being able to sing. With that being said, if I had been able to train myself intense enough to get back to where I was 4 years ago, I would love to perform in a musical. But after the audition, it doesn't seem likely. But everything is fine because I have no interest in performing on a stage that all my friends would be coming to watch me embarrass myself, except that I had wasted a bunch load of time trying to shape my vocal cords.

What exactly went wrong was everything. Although I did try to warm up my voice, I failed my first high note in the song along with every other high note. In addition, I also forgot to round my voice up during the whole song because I didn't have that much consciousness to focus on being judged and failing high notes at the same time. After all that, I also got a comment on how little my voice was. I mean, you don't need a loud voice for choir, you needed that opposite. And although that is a very good excuse I could make to myself, it will definitely not affect any of the judging processes. Have I also forgot to mention that I put my previous singing experience as an international champion choir member? Now that I have time to look back on it, it was a huge mistake. Not only I had dropped my teacher's expectations that had been gained by my early interest in the play, but I had also raised his hope higher than what he already had to drop it altogether(I didn't know how grammar work in the last sentence, just ignore it). To sum it all up, real-time performance isn't my jam.

After knowing that I have failed the audition for the musical, I decided that I have a new goal to achieve singing-wise (I really have too many goals). The goal is to do a cover of a song in any way I want. And if I did that without difficulties, I would aim to write and record my own song in some sort of way. Since last year, I wanted to have my own

song. It seemed too easy for me: you just have to string a series of notes together and add lyrics to it. But like everything else in life, I am pretty sure its one of those many things that are very easy to scratch the surface but very hard to actually master it. While a lot of people admire people are good at a vast amount of stuff, it is most likely that they had scratched the surface of a lot of things, and it is not actually that impressive. I have read that colleges like people who are very focused on a certain aspect of skill and not a variety of good skills. And me being in the spot that I am in now is not good. I just focus on too much stuff. And while it may be ok for an actual smart person to take on multiple skills at once and to improve on them, it is quite impossible for me.

I may not be able to perform on the upcoming musical, but I had set more goals for myself and I am "determined" to achieve them. (lazy conclusion, I know)



This is a sketch I did months ago because I am not as productive anymore and I don't draw as much (I am a very busy man)

Kenneth (2019-02-02 07:04:56)

A nice try for the audition. You are now a young man but not a boy. Your voice changed indeed. Music is cool and having playing music is awesome.

This is very good that you have learn the skill when you are very young.

Young man, don't regret if you try your best. Just regret if you even don't try and give all the excuse.

Go ahead with your interest and make really really hard for it.

Young man, you are young and you worth to have many try

2.2 February

Perceptions | How There Was 3 Different Comments on the Same Room (2019-02-06 21:25)

Last semester my English class read *The Life of Pi* and my awesome teacher really dug on how perception played a role in that story. Her stressing on how the perception of different people came back to me when a couple of my friends and family commented on my room. Long story short is that the four people that saw my room identify it with a certain mood. While my housemate thinks it is high-school-ish, my friend relates it to a hacker room.

To my housemate that is 2 years younger than me, I am that awesome high-school kid that have perfect grades and can do everything known to man (obviously I exaggerated a bit). I was that kid that code, sing, play saxophone, have all As, and have a patient heart. When he went into my room 3 days ago, he immediately noted that it feels like room for a successful high-schooler. He specifies said, "your room feel like it is for high-schoolers. Mine feels like a normal adult room." I don't know what that second line came from, but his remark on my room was made based on me as a person and not on the room solely. He thought of the room in relation to my characteristics and in relation to what he thought of me. Although the whole room has absolute no decorations at all, he thought of what he had thought of. His view of the room was affected by his perception of me.



My Room

I really just butchered this one.

I have hw, but I want to have a picture of my room to go along with the blog

To my friend at school, his first words in my room were, "This is the hacker room, right?" In his defense, I had a server up and running in a terminal my Linux computer and

the screen that was present was one with green text on top of a black background. In my friend's case, because he knows me as the kid that taught himself electronics and 3 programming language, he saw the room as one for "hackers". My talks with him explaining how exactly hackers do their work, and how they are just exploiting loopholes within programs, manipulated him in seeing my room as he sees it. Once again, he saw the room based on the characteristics he thinks of me and not based on the environment of the room. My room had the same blue paint along with a couple of desks and drawers. The actual interior of my room was making any effect on how people think of it.

To my homestay parents, they said my room was comfy. At that time, I to them was the kind and nice kid that is very regular with his habits. They knew me as one that has a good sleeping schedule along with a good-intended ambition. They saw the room as one that is very tidy and organized because of me. From then to now, the organization of my room didn't change much, it is still that messy and that tidy, but it is only my homestay parents that said that room was comfy and organized.

Different people had different comments about my room just because of what they think of me. They didn't comment on the room based on the actual room, but rather had commented according to me. Their perceptions affected their thoughts and perception really played a major role. This phenomenon tells me how perception is really that manipulative and effective.

1. (the reason why it is 3 days is because I was too lazy to type the last 3 days)

P.S: I didn't post this "daily" blog in 4 days. I am lacking off. But I will come back strong, I believe.

Kenneth (2019-02-07 19:11:39)
I become a fan for SpeedStor. ^^

Finishing my Website (2019-02-13 08:12)

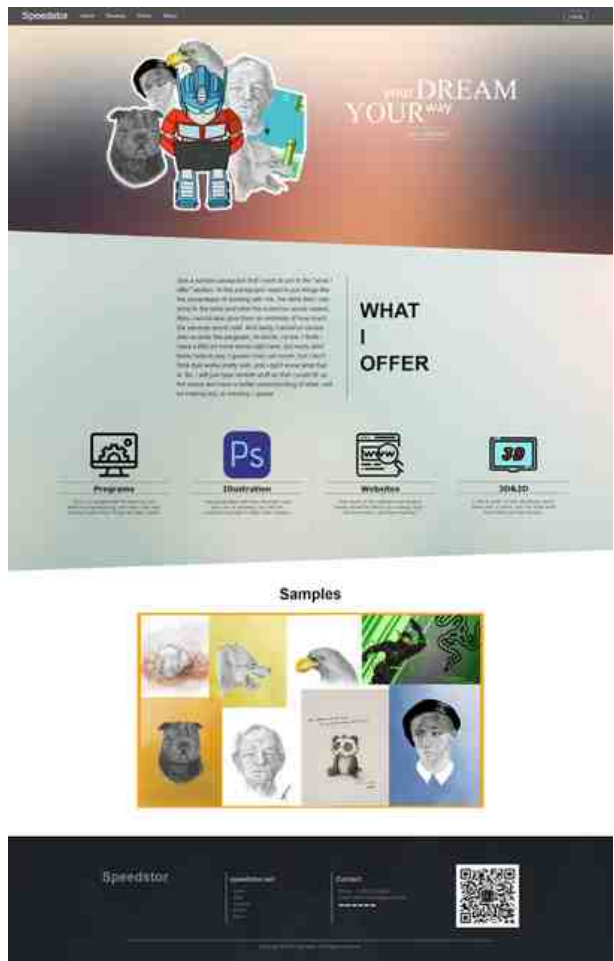
If you read my blogs, you would know that I wanted to finish my website and earn my first portion of money before my 16th birthday. And as you know, I didn't really do that. My website had just yesterday got rid of green squares in place of actual pictures. My target of finishing all this before December is now finally half way done 2 months later. After setting up a domain, the next step is getting customers which would pose its own challenge. But in the end, the only important thing is that I need to keep trying.

Just last Friday, my school counselors held a talk about the International Baccalaureate Program (IBP) and how we should be applying for it. With my enormous amount of tuition that my parents are paying for me right now, it is annoying to have the need to even pay more. Although nothing about a rise in tuition that the IB program would bring, I think it is implied. But there is still a possibility that because my tuition is in such great amount that it won't cost extra (whatever, it's impossible). In that talk, the counselors listed a bunch of benefits in taking the program, their list went on and on for hours. One of the many reasons that they addressed is how the program would shape the student as an individual. They said that because of the tight scheduling and the forcing of good habits within that program. The program is said to be a very well-rounded, balanced, and I think I would gain a lot of experience for being there.

The alternative option other than IB is AP, and although it is said to be an inferior option, it is said to have their own benefits. AP is not foreign to the US and most US colleges are more familiar to AP in contrast to IB. And although the acceptant rate of IB students is higher, the places and spots available for it are less in one college. The possibility of getting in a college through pure luck is more unlikely than ever. In addition, when taking

AP, there is no limit on how many subjects you could take. While IB offers a program which you choose a certain number of classes to earn a diploma. AP just offer you an unlimited option of tests that some student does take them all.

In this blog, it is obvious that I don't know what I am talking about. But I haven't posted for 7 days straight, so I am just going to throw this out there.



my hosted website on speedstor.net

Daniel sep6 (2019-02-13 11:42:54)

We can have a conversation about your website if you want. It will be the best during today's lunch

at school.(we can meet at the same old place)

Friends (2019-02-15 01:00)

"It is very important to have friends, and although they are not essential, life would be much more difficult without them." This is what my mum had causally and jokingly said about my situation in school since I understand Chinese. And when I had first heard of this phrase, the only thing I can think of is how materialistic you have to be to say it. A bared down version of this is just "you need friends because you need their help". You are making friends based on the benefits of it, and you are using your friends. Even if you help them back, and the trade goes both ways, it is still true that you are there partly because of the help. But today, I have a different view on this, and this quote could be looked upon in another angle.

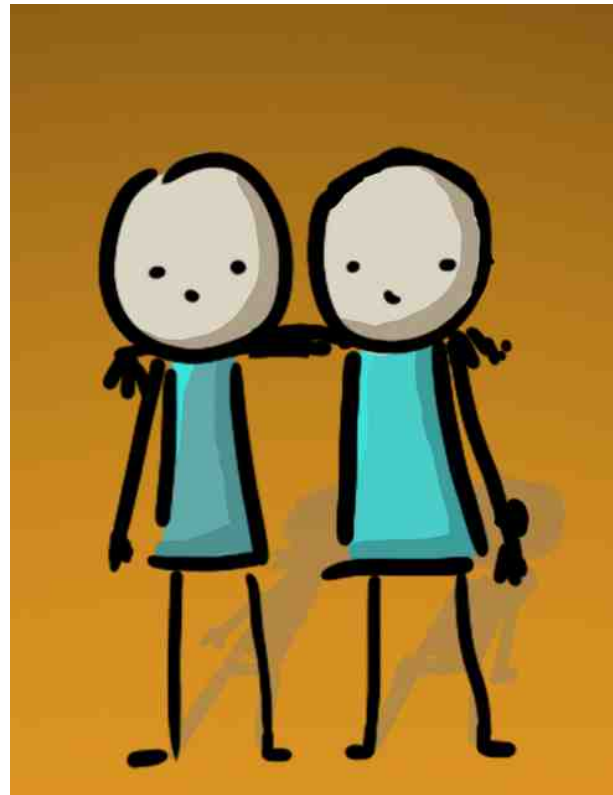
This quote holds true and moral because you are providing help and assistance in thinking this way. Although you are conscious and look forward to the aid you get from your friends, you are also conscious of the contrary and that you would have to help them back in their darkest times as well. Although I myself would prefer friends to have a genuine care for each other, I think this both way trade of a win-win situation serves no negative effect. Even in a situation that one of the friends went through a detrimental accident that rendered them useless, the trade still continues and one would help the other. Friends like this still go around together and take a form of couples, and it does not damage the relationship in any way. The only negative part about this kind of friend relationship is that the choice of friends would become a very annoying and immoral process for people holding this belief. But except that little step back to it, this kind of relationship of friends is perfect. Friends would be aware of the actions that others are doing to them and be grateful for it. While the lack of action may lead to friends like this to spare apart, I do not think this is going to be likely to happen. Al-

though this kind of friendship is not ideal, it is far from immoral as I thought.

The reason that I brought this up is that my friend offered to advertise my website and my services to others. This doesn't mean this friend is the type of friend that I described, but his offer to help me is such great that I had related it to that type of friend. He voluntarily acts of proposing his plan to help me is mind-blowing to me. Although he did other things for me before and I surely and fully appreciate it, it did not strike me as much as it did now. What he is offering is to sacrifice his time and face for me. I cannot stress how badly I hate advertising myself or, in fact, for anyone. When you are pitching about your business or idea to someone and is seeking their approval, you are like a beggar begging for their money and assistance. Although I don't want to be a beggar in any shape or alternate form, I don't feel like I am too good for it. I just don't like to rely on anyone but myself. If I am going to help one person out, I wouldn't want to ask (beg) for their acceptance of me. Back to the point, this friend of mine is offering to do the (in my eyes) "dirty" work for me, and I am such grateful. The only problem left now is that I need to gain the qualification to do commission work for others. Right now, although I could do a lot, I do not think I am good enough. (if the friend I am talking about reads this, it would be pretty weird)

The thing that I take from this is that as long as you are trying your best to help others and be genuine about your offered help, good things will naturally come at your way.

Now that the people I know in real life read my blog, I must be careful what I say and not cringe them out. I know my English writing is not even near the primary school level, so if you are reading this, just know that you would be better off reading actual books and short articles. 😊



Kenneth (2019-02-22 06:28:54)

Friend are important. Good friend are even more important.

1984 | Effectiveness of Brainwashing and a Monarchy Rule (2019-02-25 22:57)

I have trapped myself in not downloading any more books to read on my kindle before I do a book review for 1984. I have held this review so long that I need to set restrains in order for myself to do it. The main reason for this is that this book didn't strike me that much. Although this book is famous for its concept about how the omission of vocabulary would limit people thoughts because they no longer know how to grasp that concept. Although there are other studies that proved otherwise, this book was published in 1949, so I guess this was very impressive that many years ago.

This book starts off like most other books, this book has a generic main character with his damsel in distress. And like any book, it has an antagonist which is the government in this case. 1984 created an environment where a monarchy government wants to limit its citizen's thoughts. They used tactics such as lying about an on-going war to exert control, taking vocab out of a citizen's daily life to limit certain thoughts and intruding into each citizen's life with hidden cameras and a special type of police - "thought police". In the society of the book, the thought of freedom or possession is a crime and any citizens that show signs of this thought would be followed and tracked down. In this controlled society, grown individuals are constantly aware of their actions while the young roam around normally being used to the special treatment they have. Kids are educated in such extremes where watching hangings are a treat for them. The idea of this type of governing is that by getting rid of any possible thoughts about revolt and rebellion, no one would oppose the government even if they put on the cruelest of acts. The author hypothesized that extreme control that includes the control over thoughts would be feasible and sustainable.

Although the purpose of this book is not to correctly predict the future and is to warn people about the implications of exerting control, the concepts that are used in the book aren't really that logical. The biggest one of this is that it thinks the control over language would control the mind. This is tremendously false because our thoughts are only partly guided by words. For example, if the word purple isn't ever made up in English, people would still see purple and remember the resemblance of it in their mind. Although the person may not express what he saw easily, he is still capable of thinking about it. And when things could be remembered and thought of, words would be created in place of describing it. In the book's defense, the inability of describing something would oppress actions of it because one individual will not be able to organize or spread his/her

ideas easily. More control would be exercised with the deletion in people's vocabulary, but it does not limit their thoughts in any way.

Another idea that this book represented is that if long-term brainwash is made, people would change their way of thinking. And even though they still remember the days where they thought of justice and human right, they would no longer abide by what they believe. And although it is a very compelling point, I strongly disagree with his idea. If a person still remembers the concept that they had believed in, they would retain the reasoning behind it and keep on believing in it. Rigid beliefs could not be erased with brainwashing. Rigid beliefs need reasoning to be dispatched. One would not forget that $1+1=2$ because he is told enough times that it isn't. The author had been confused between brainwashing and reasoning.

With all that said, although the book contains ideas about brainwashing and dystopian society that I do not agree with, I am amazed by how complex the philosophy is behind the simple story. If the book had a more interesting plot I would definitely recommend it, but otherwise, only read it if you are super into philosophy.

P.S: Finally finished the book review, now I can go back to reading books.

why did I deprive myself of books even?



Quick Sketch of a parront on my Ipad

2.3 March

Intellectual Labor - My First Commission (2019-03-05 19:08)

After finally having my first commission from my website thanks to my friends, I have been subjected to making a website again. And that means I needed to do html, css and javascript. If you do not know what these three "programming" languages are, you only need to know that they are very repetitive and are ones that you could learn all in one day. To write this kind of code requires the littlest of your brain, and for now, there is still no one website builder that could replace actually typing them out with preserved quality. And because I need to make a website again, I had been enthralled with 2 weeks of intellectual

labor and got me thinking about the concept of it.

Intellectual labor had been around for many years already. Most of the low-grade accountants and personally assistance jobs only involves in typing notes of their boss and punching numbers into computers. Although some personal assistance also plans days and meetings as well, a well-written program could do the same exact thing. Intellectual labor is that one thing that prevents the computer from taking over all jobs. The question that I now have is that if intellectual labor now had been shrunken to only inputting data and product testing, why is this gap not already been filled. Computers now could read handwritten texts and numbers pretty well right now and even games and creativity are now slowly being one of the computer's greatest strength. There is no possibility of computers not being able to do this kind of "labor" for us. Website builders should be more advanced than they are and a lot of jobs should not require humans to do it. Programs being a thing that is write-once reuse many should not be something that is subscription based. Programs such as word and excel that does intellectual labor for people should not be things of subscriptions. The power of the computer's ability to do labor should not be neglected. The pure fact that a lot of people still aren't able to be trusted in offices doesn't mean that computers could not be deployed now.

To this point, you may be thinking that I am missing something and that all of what computers could do is already used in companies and workflows, but the thing is that computers aren't being used as often as they are. To prove this, I am going to tell you about my sister's summer job 2 years ago. That year summer, my sister's job was to input numbers from a paper into a computer. And what is so absurd about all of it is that the numbers that are recorded are from another minimum-wage employee that got the numbers in the street. There is no reason to not have that person to not have input the number into an electronic device in the first place. The process

is prolonged by the fact that they did not use pre-existing data managing software to manage the data. The excuse for getting more jobs isn't acceptable because money could be saved and distributed with the jobs that are neglected. Although I am nothing but a successful person or businessman and I have no authority to comment over things such as this, the fact remains that jobs should not be made for the fact that jobs help facilitate the economy. There are other ways to prosper the country other than just making labors and avoidable jobs.

Another saying about the taking over of intellectual labor is that it will make some people jobless and poor. But right now, every single person from a developed country is required to education and the exclusion of labor in jobs would only mean that there are more high-quality jobs for people to apply for. And although there are still rural areas where people do not get the chance to get an education, those areas and places will get their own growth and slowly have everyone with an education. And once everyone is educated, jobs related to cleaning and order would have no one to do. In Hong Kong, dishwashing jobs are a job without people to do. These minimum wage jobs are slowly being unfavorable even to the people that are not educated. And at that point, robots and computer have its necessity of actually taking over jobs. The future with robots and artificial intelligence is not a future that we should be scared off or worried about. Natural had set its course long ago and would continue setting its course. The phenomenon of jobs being replaced by robots is one that we all should root for and not demise.

Intellectual labor should be slowly taken away and jobs of making websites, selling tickets and waiting tables should be replaced as soon as possible so that our evolution in the brain would be excelled and sped up.



Introduction

The club is a social organization... (text is partially obscured and blurry)

1 111,000
Events Members Total





My commissioned website

P.S: After writing this, I found out that this is already a thing that universities had studies on. Just saying.

Distractions | Login System on my Website (2019-03-11 00:18)

I have learned PHP and MySQL, my [1]beta website finally have accounts available. Although all the code right now is heavily referenced, I have a very good reason for it. For the last two weeks, I was bombarded by classmates and siblings for help. I do not know when I had become an all-achieving student, but I will take it. The only downside to all this is that all my free time are taken all up by others.

For the past 2 weeks, I hadn't been productive. Although school work had dramatically decreased, and I had a lot more free time without getting my grade involved, I had not done too much. One of the major reasons for this is that my other homestay recently found out how useful I am in terms of getting help. Once he found out that I could dedicate almost all of my day to other people, he decided to have me sit beside him for every homework he does. I do not blame him, because as he said himself, he cannot concentrate nearly enough by himself and would take a whole day to complete half of his homework. With me by his side, he is able to rush through his homework like actual paper. Everything is good, all except that all MY free time had been taken away. What makes worse is that my homestay brother also likes to have me as his gaming buddy. After getting him homework all done and straight, he would ask me numerous times just for me to agree upon playing video games with him. He is never afraid to ask for anything, and me, on the other hand, is not strong enough to hold my position all the time. The last two weeks of my life only consisted of teaching others and playing games with my homestay brother. This is my first time being in a situation of a bigger sibling, and for now, I have no idea why anyone would like a younger sibling ever.

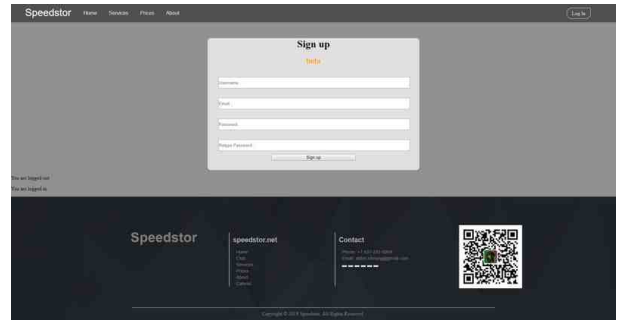
Distractions take in various forms. They could be originated from other people, other objects, or our own ego. Each one of them compliments each other and if any one of the distractions gets eliminated, other forms

of it re-appear and fill in the gap. My last two weeks consist of little social media, little entertainment, little personal hobbies, but all those are ultimately replaced by my homestay sibling. And when my homestay brother decide that I am no longer of any use to him, my distractions would only turn into other forms to haunt me all over again. The only standing point of the distractions of people is that they are very obvious and that we are always aware of them. Every time my homestay brother ask me to sit with him for his homework, I immediately feel an urge of frustration and wonder what degree of things that I could do instead of actually helping him with his homework. But at the same time, I also know that even if he did not request for my precious time, I would have gone ahead on wasting time by myself. Distractions for me is a thing that can not be beaten, and even if it is, it would just grow back like grass after a fire. Although I had used up a lot of my time on dedicating my conscious to other people and not really making a big difference in the end, I still helped others. And if you criticize how my complaint about it right now had proved me as a very materialistic person, you are right. While I may have not broken out during the periods when I was helping others, I was not as helpful as I could have and people had suffered the consequences of my actions. My friends are still struggling at math and bio, and my homestay brother still does not know how to learn effectively by himself.

In the past, I love helping other people, but right now, I see my assistance as a distraction from my work. It may be because of my unreasonable dream of getting into Stanford without an extraordinary high academic performance, or maybe because of my desire for self-dependent before 18. Both things are extremely hard for me to achieve and is only a reality only reachable in dreams, but as a saying said, "If you shoot for the stars, you will at least land on the moon." (Totally disagree with that saying, but whatever).

P.S: with social media out of the way, I wish that I would actually now start becoming

productive.



My website with accounts. Although are still not functionalities to it, you could [2]check it out by going to my website and clicking sign in.

1. <http://beta.speedstor.net/>
2. <http://beta.speedstor.net/>

Kenneth (2019-03-11 19:48:14)
 Inspired by you, I recently setup a home server at home. I will make a media server 1st and will share link with you end of this week.

Non achievement (2019-03-11 23:46)

The title may be misleading, but anyways, I was trying to say that my inability to help 3 to 4 people simultaneously is my non-achievement (It made more sense in my head).

Although I am complaining about my awesome life right now, I just want to first say that I am grateful for everything I have right now and is more than excited to better teach other people. With that said, to take on an additional responsibility of teaching people

when I procrastinate myself is very frustrating. Although I am not the kind of person who rages upon others when annoyed, I am that close to yelling at the people that I attempt on helping(I actually do not help a lot).

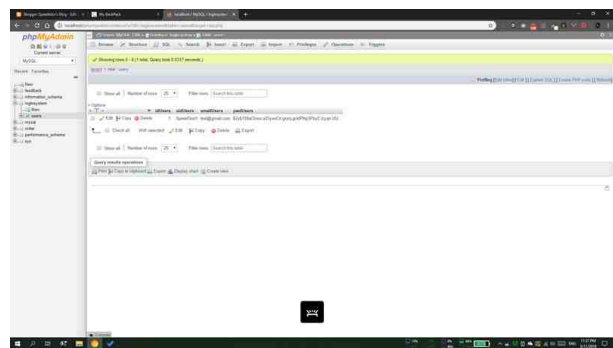
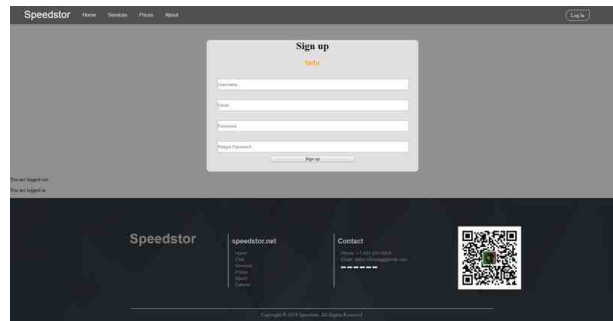
Whenever my classmates for friends come and ask for me to explain things from class and textbooks, I always think about how I never need any assistance in my understanding. While I have a very good education thanks to my parents, I do not think I have many advantages compared to others in any regard. People always say they trying their hardest or that they are going to try-hard on their next test, but in the end, they just review the materials the day before. I am just the person who repeats what the teacher says in a worse way. I could translate, re-explain and dedicated unlimited time, but the thing is that I would become frustrated. Time for everyone is limited, and due to my problem with procrastination, my time is even more limited than others. Every day I use one to three hours on relaxation and shutting off my brain. If you take away another 3 of the 24 hours that I have, my hobbies and extra-curricular activities will not have enough space to be fit into. I do not get why people skip or sleep through classes just to have more necessity to relearn the stuff afterward. I understand that we always think that we could do things better later, but I think we all know that it is not true. Things always come back and haunt you if you do not deal with it at that moment.

Another thing that is eating up my time is games. Just half a year ago, I have cured myself of video games entirely, but my home-stay brother's obsession with his NBA game pulled me back into the world of video games. Everything started when he started asking me to play with him. At that time, I saw he was alone and he could only play single player. In response, I agreed on playing the game with him, and it is afterward that I found out how bad of an idea it was. It turns out that he is alone every day, every minute. If I were to be a kind person and entertain him with my involvement, I would have a negative time

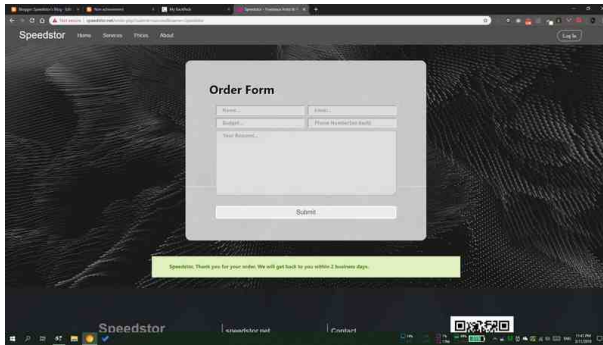
left in my life. Although school is not hard at the moment, my life still cannot fit in an extra collum of another genre of life. For the past 2 weeks, as I said in yesterday's blog, I have been subdued to satisfying other's need in exchange for my effort. Although I was still able to make songs and code in parallel to these new activities, my grades are slowly but evidently dropping. Grades are easy to drop and hard to maintain, and dropping it right now is the exact opposite of what I want.

Although I had just used a whole blog to whine about how I need to help others and entertain them, I just want to again address that I am thankful that I am in such positions. It is just that I may not be good enough to handle it all.

P.S: I cannot write anymore, I slept less than 3 hours yesterday, and I am not holding up.



[1]



my website can finally let users submit their request and comments

automated email and online payment is coming real soon

1. https://3.bp.blogspot.com/-P598Vs1nUdU/XIdT6-aZVzI/AAAAAAAAADh8/_HgtwKAXZh4dn0Gu-jCuFWd4Vb9FQx4GACLcBGAs/s1600/%257B82D2D18A-AD8E-4111-8E1E-B05D14131C50%257D.png

Order (2019-03-22 16:37)

When I was little, my mother always stressed the importance of keeping everything organized. If one thing belongs in its place, it should always be in its place. There should never be any exceptions to these rules. Although I never doubt this thinking of my parents, I never thought much of it. If I could sustain my position when being messy, I would keep being messy, as long as it suffices. But it was just last week that I found out that just being good enough when being messy is fake. Because of all the extra work that I had been subjected to during the last two weeks (the tutoring that I need to do), my messy schedule for each day caused my downfall. I kept doing homework at the last minute, rushing through essays like it were blogs. When you run out of time, your work becomes shotty, and that was exactly me. To combat this current drawback of mine right now, I decided to draw up a schedule and make sure I stick to it in response to all the people that think I could

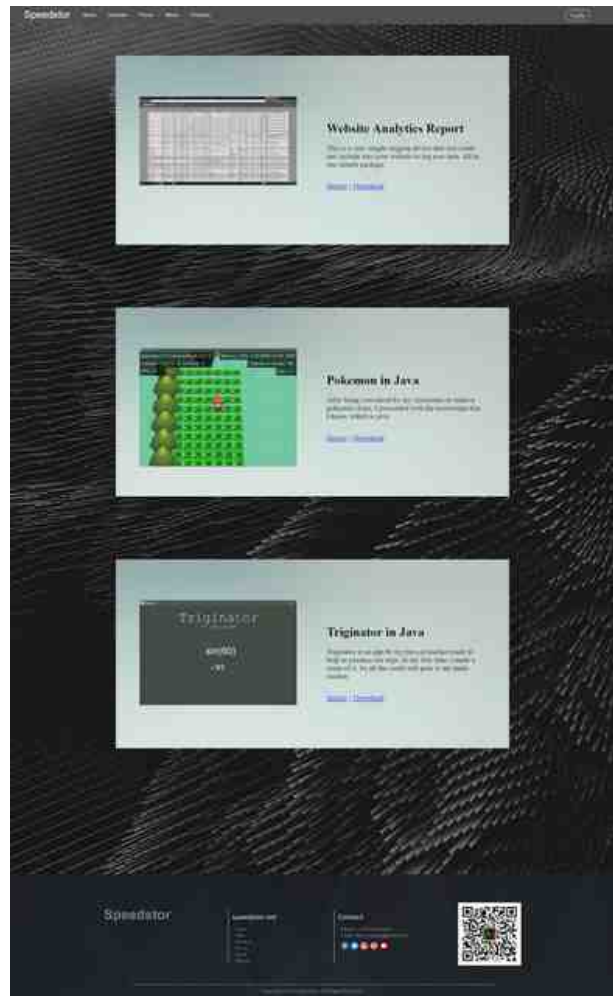
help them (I really cannot).

Although I really do not know that much about order and the benefits of it, because of the blog, I would try my best to convince you about how it works. Order helps break down seemingly improbable tasks in life into an understandable amount. I could confidently tell myself that I only need two hours to dedicate to helping others, I could take my time in planning my rest of the day. For the past two weeks, I had no clue about how much time other people would cost me. In smooth days, others may only need my help for a second or so, but on a rough day, I may need to take upward to 6 hours in helping others. And the worst thing about this is that nothing of this is in complementary to your own schedule. What happens to me last week is that people only need my help when I have a busy day. I would have 4 homework waiting for me on the desk while I try my best in explaining how volume is to a person who really just wants to remember the formulas and pass his upcoming math test. Right now, I am struggling to write this blog because the household is as loud as a market. Things do not always go along with your plans, and it is crucial for oneself to have the leeway in taking hits. And one of the most prominent ways of doing this is to have a very orderly manner of life. It is like buffing up your health bar in a game in consequence in needing of taking the beating afterward.

Order also helps you slow down in the busiest of days. When you have a clear sight of where you want to go, the journey between these two places would appear to be much much shorter. Knowing your surrounding gives you awareness in how far behind or how far ahead you are. You could save trouble in panicking or the affliction of insecurity. Things seem much easier when you have a larger and broader understanding of it even if you have no clue about that thing. This may seem very discontinuing, and it is probably because of my way of explaining, again, I am in a very noisy environment right now, but let me explain. You would always have an

easier job of learning something if you know what to learn. In the case of textbooks, they laid out the sequence in what to learn for you, you just have to follow and proceed. But in the case of learning a new programming language, you would always want to know all the new or unique aspects of it before actually learning how to use it. By learning the new features first, you know how far you are from fully understanding the object, and when you can stop learning. No one would ever want to learn extra information if they do not have to.

As I said, I am in a very distracting environment right now, so I am going to stop here. And although I know I have a very skill in ending paragraphs, essays, and blogs, I would leave this matter for another day similar to every other thing in my life.



	A	B	C	D	E
1	Situps	5:00 - 5:30			
2	SAT	5:35 - 6:00			
3	Backup hw spot	6:05 - 6:30			
4	Breakfast / flex	6:40 - 7:00			
5	School / blog	7:50 - 3:30			
6	Rest	3:30 - 3:55			
7	Hw	4:00 - 5:00			
8	SAT / flex/runnin	5:00 - 6:00			
9	Fixx	6:00 - dinner			
10					
11	Dinner	An hour			
12	Jackson	7:30 - 8:30			
14	Review for scho	8:40 - 9:30			
15	Flex	9:30 - 10:10			
16					
17					
18					
19					
20					
21	Flex:				
22		• Drawing			
23			• 3d blender		
24			• Motion graphic		
25			• 2d illustration		
26		• Website			
27		• Program			
28		• Commission			
29		• Computer music			
30		• Saxophone			
31					
32	Running flex:				
33		• Running			
34		• Basketball			
35					
36					
37					
38					
39					
40					
41					

The new page in my website, and the daily schedule that I wish

I would be able to follow for at least this semester

2.4 April

Website AutoLogin Script (2019-04-03 12:23)

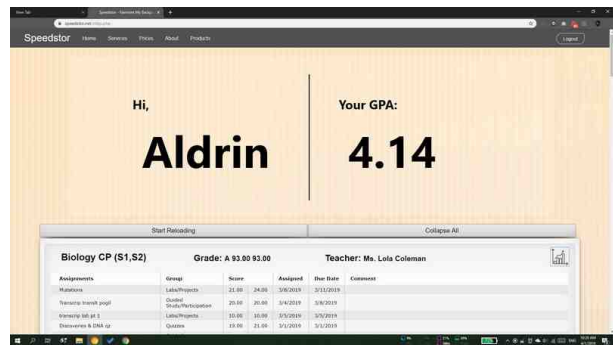
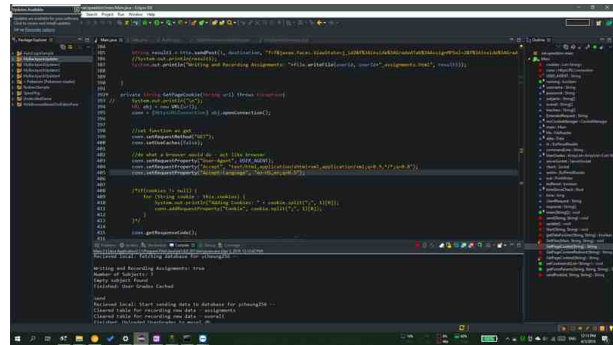
For the last week, I had been working on improving my school's grade checking system

by duplicating it. This step was essential because the original system takes at least 10 seconds for people to even get a glimpse of what they have for their grade. Although this process definitely creates suspense in itself, one thing could not be argued to be useful because of their drawbacks. With this in mind, I took upon myself in bettering this system.

To do all this, the first thing that I needed to do is to auto login to this site. Fortunately, this site is still pretty high level and low budget and I didn't have too much trouble in reverse engineering it (the term does sound very impressive, but its just reading code). Unfortunately, even easy networking confuses me, and that is why I am here now trying to explain how to auto login a site here to save anyone a day of mindless trying.

1. The first thing is cookies. It took me one to two hours to figure out what I needed to focus on is cookies. Cookies are what keep users from logging in and logging out. Although some site doesn't use cookies to log in users, most sites including youtube, Yahoo and the site I am working on uses it. Cookies in browsers could be stored for as long as one's lifetime, or as short as one browsing session. The timeout of a cookie is set by a server and users ideally would not be able to change it.
2. To emulate a browser in a script, I used the Httpurlconnection class in java because java is my most fluent programming language. In this class, the request and response headers are not very important, and if you do not know what they are, you have no need for them to make an auto login script. in the Httpurlconnection class, you could get your cookies through one of its function called get cookies(). After running this command, you could store everything inside a String array in accommodate for the multiple cookies that are present.

3. With the cookies stored in a String array, the next important thing you would want to do is not to restore the cookies when redirected to the login page. Because of the nature of some site confining users in only using their login for a session, they would expire the cookie once it is set. To refresh the cookie would only make the cookie immediately expired. (Till this point, it had already been 5 hours for me)
4. After storing the cookies and not reloading it after being redirected to the login page, you are logged in as long as you insert the first cookie from your stored list. For some site, they would like to add post parameters to add security. If so, just copy it from the networking tool from chrome because there is no way around it.
5. Subsequent to your successful login, you would want to directly go to the site desired and get the html content you had always been wanting.
6. Wala, you got data from a website from a script and could now automate data grabbing from websites. From this, you could notify yourself when your account had any changes or even storing your data on a visual program like rainmeter to remind yourself of your data.



Although I am aware that I did not explain everything in the utterly most simplistic way, I hope this information would help anyone that is stuck in their way of making an auto login script. And if anyone wanted to check out my version of my auto login script, they are welcome to check it out by downloading the zip or visiting it on GitHub. My program is also adapted to be a server so that I could receive and send requests to my main server for added efficiency.

GitHub: [1]<https://github.com/Speedstor/MyBackpackUpdater>

Download: [2]<https://speedstor.net/storage/MyBackpackUpdater-Speedstor.zip>

1. <https://github.com/Speedstor/MyBackpackUpdater>
2. <https://speedstor.net/storage/MyBackpackUpdater-Speedstor.zip>

Kenneth (2019-04-07 18:26:21)
This is cool

Speedstor (2019-04-10 12:59:08)
Thank you

Get youtube automatic transcripts (2019-04-10 08:39)

A week ago, I finally went to making an app that allows people to read youtube rather than wasting their time and watching it. Right now, each video takes about 10 minutes for one person to finish, and I seek to improve this by making the option for people to speed read the transcript. Although I did not finish the app, I did figure out how to automatically get the transcript. And because I really do not have much things to say on my blog anymore, I would explain my process of finding this way of getting the transcript.

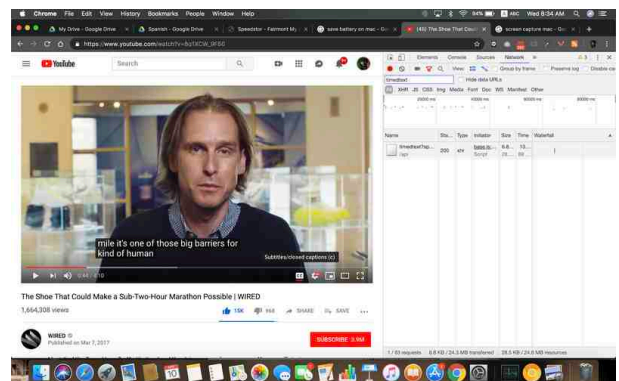
Firstly, like any of my other apps, I started with a search on google. While I expected a very straightforward answer and that I could immediately go to making an app, the truth is that it's not that simple and people do not just announce their findings when they find it. And this blog is also here to try to change it. With my unsuccessful google search, I was forced to go investigate youtube.com. Within Google Chrome's network debugging tab, there are a cluster of different sources when you visit the site. After examining each and one of them, I finally found that if you turn on transcription, a link of `youtube.com/api/timedtext?` is used to summon the transcript. But within the get tags of the link, there is a tag called signature and it is different every time you get expired. Youtube.com generates this link and allow their own website to access it. With that said, The signature has no way of just crack and generate ourselves and to reverse engineer a program that I don't even have access is proved to be out of my league. After that, I am only stuck with trying a different way.

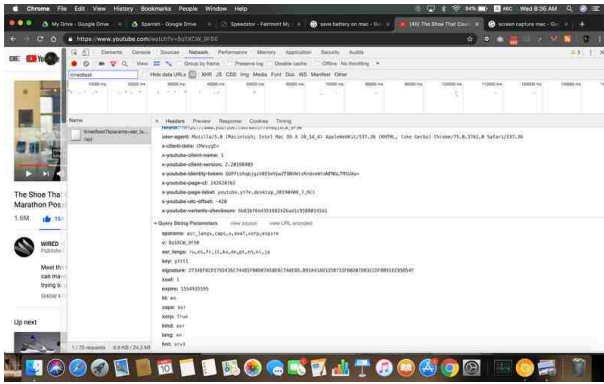
Continuing investigating the network tag, I found out that you get a link of `youtube.com?getTranscript`. With this, I dung into it but hit a road block when I found it is reliant on a post parameter of `token_session`. If you do not know much about networking, I could tell you that a post parameter is way more difficult to fake compared to just a get parameter. A get parameter is located

within a link while a post parameter could not even be seen and is mostly encoded. With that said, it means that the second method of faking a `session_token` was impossible, so I went back to the first method.

From that, I at that time had identified all the possible way of getting the automated transcript from youtube and that the first way seems to be easier. But still, I cannot figure out how to get the signature. But with luck on my side, and with days upon days of searching and investigating, I finally found the answer and it makes me feel like that I am the dumbest person on earth. The signature and the full link to get the transcript was always existant in the youtube video HTML page. Although it is encoded with simple text-formats, it was really visible and straightforward.

In the end, I found out how to get an automated generated transcript from youtube and could finally continuing in making an app for people to speed read youtube. I will be a long journey as because I need to learn android studio and Xcode. Although the answer that I found, in the end, is simple and laughable, it still increased my understanding of networking as because I now know all the in and out to how websites and server communicate.





Karma - My "new" Macbook pro (2019-04-10 11:46)

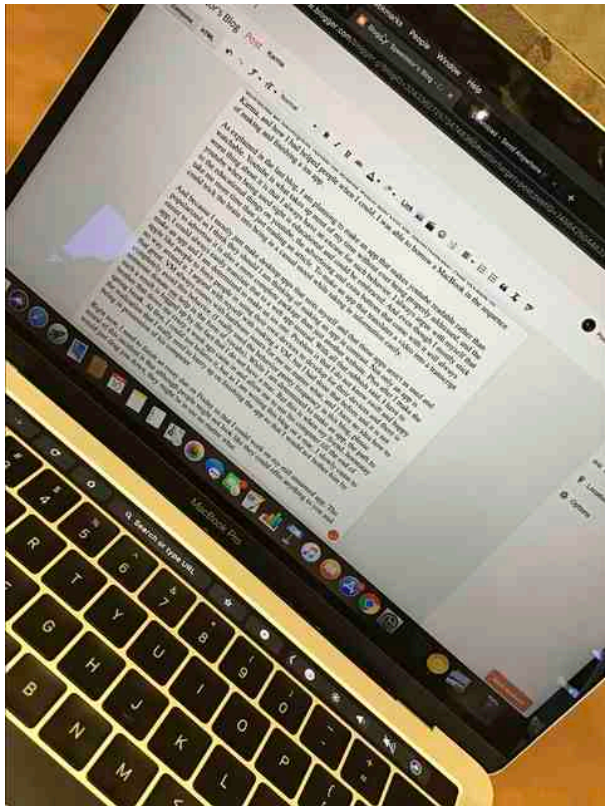
When karma is referred, it is mostly referred to in a negative way, referred with the meaning of experiencing a consequence of a bad act. But it is yesterday that I found out this word could be used in the exact opposite. Yesterday, I shared my troubles with how it is very annoying to develop a ios app on windows. I complained about how I need to download macOS and how if not, I need to download an incomplete Xcode on ubuntu which also cost me inconvenience. And because of Karma, and how I had helped people when I could, I was able to borrow a MacBook in the sequence of making and finishing a ios app.

As explained in the last blog, I am planning to make an app that makes youtube readable rather than watchable. Youtube is what takes up most of my time without ever being properly addressed, and the worst thing about it is that I always have an excuse for such behavior. I always argue with myself that youtube when being used right is educational and could be embraced. And even though I mostly stick to the educational things on youtube, the advertising and extra buttons that come with it will always take me more time than just reading an article. To make an app that translates a video into a casual mood while taking in information easily.

And because I mostly just make desktop apps that suits myself and that these apps aren't as used and popularized as I think they should I am thinking of making an app in contrast. Not only an app is easier to advertise it is also a more complete package than just another website. Plus after I make the app, I could always easily translate that to a web app instead. With all that rubbish said, I have to make an app and I am determined to make an ios one. Problem is that I do not know swift and happy apple like people to force people in using their own devices to develop for their devices and there is no way around it. I argued with myself with making a VM, but I had done that before and it is not that great. VM always comes with hardware issues for me no matter what, and I have no idea how to completely avoid this behavior. (I really used the behavior pretty frequency in this blog, please someone donate me help in the form of vocabs). While I am determined to make an app, the path to such a result is fogged up by the fact that I do not have a mac. But this is when my friend, homestay brother that drove me crazy a week ago came in and allow me to use his computer till the end of spring break. At first, I could not believe it, but as I am writing this blog on a mac, I slowly came to the realization that I really need to hurry up on finishing the app so that I would not bother him by being in possession of his computer.

Right now, I need to finish an essay due on Friday so that I could work on my still unnamed app. The moral of this incident is that although people might not look like they could offer anything to you and would just drag you down, they might be in use no matter what.

P.S: Related to Karma, I also got to ride on a Camaro Bumblebee because I taught someone coding.



My newly acquired computer.

Spring Break (2019-04-12 12:18)

Today is the last day of school before a week of spring break. Although the holidays are not really my thing, I do look forward to this holiday a lot. And this is because I had already determined what I need to do during the spring break. It may end very badly, or it could end well. It all determines on my ability to focus on my work. During the spring break, I need to make the youtubeReader app in ios. Although I have faith in myself, I have never made a mobile app despite my numerous attempts at it. Mobile apps are always constraint by their creators, which are apple and google. These companies although smart are never able to make an intuitive developer ide for their platform. While I may be fluent in Java, the java in android is much

more annoying because I need to learn their functions to control their apps. But nevertheless, because of all the failed attempts, I made before, I have hope that I would be able to figure it out this time.

As I said, today is the last day of school, and I really have no interest in completing my last day. I am writing this in class, not that I have anything in class, but my heart is elsewhere rather in the classroom. A holiday is just that lucrative in attracting my attention. Not promising myself, but I am sure that I am going to procrastinate. The only precaution that I could think of and would do is to force myself to play 45 minutes each day, so if I really experience burn-out that easily, at least I would have 2 to 3 days to secure my productivity. And because I have nothing to say no more, I would just go on and talk about my life recently.

It was 5 weeks ago, that I found out I do not suck at math. Although pre-calculus is easier than in other schools, I did pretty well compared with other classmates. For the longest time, I thought that I was bad at math. I still remember myself barely passing math exam in Hong Kong. The worst part about this is that I thought I was above average at that time. Although I was above average, just to have the feeling of acceptance to just get a barely passing mark surprise me now. The only reason for my change in attitude in studying is because of my parents' decision in delivering me to oversees for an education. It always bothers me how the presence of money could fix almost everything. My grade wasn't the best in Hong Kong, and with the help of my parent's money, I am here in the US just chomping on my grades(not to jinx myself). Back to the topic, I right now keep surprising myself in my test scores in math. Although there are about 60 free points in each test, to get only one mistake in a test is something above what I would imagine being possible. I really do not know what I am saying, but I really want to write a blog today. Whatever, no one reads it anyway.

As I lost my desire in writing a blog, and my creativity in writing had been derived from the 2 "long"(not really that long) essay that I need to write in the last 2 days. Spring break is coming, I am glad that I am hopeful in not wasting it.



Because I never showed this in my blog, I am just going to include it in this in here. I made this like 8 months ago.

Youtube Reader - my new app that reads youtube (2019-04-18 23:01)

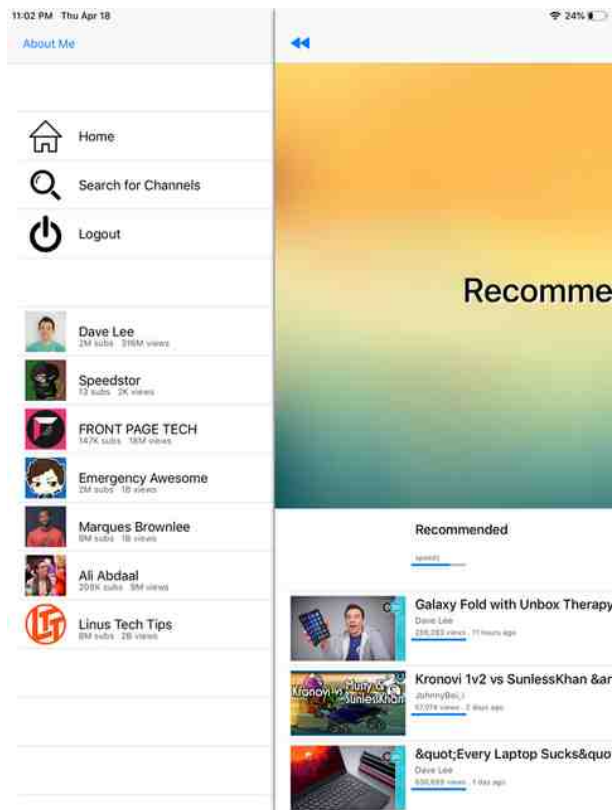
It is 6 days into the 14-day spring break, and just yesterday, I finished my youtube reader app. This app as I mentioned before takes youtube and make it in article form rather than in videos. Although this might be useless to most people, it is essential to me. I always have nothing against reading, but it is just that picking up a book is not as attractive as an option compared with watching youtube mindlessly. With I watch youtube, I always have an excuse of how it is educational and that I could learn things from it. But in the end, even if I did learn things, I also waste upward of 4 hours a day on it. From past records, this is proven to be non-sustainable. In response to the whole thing, I went ahead and made a youtube app that allows people to read. Every time I want to open up youtube, I

would remind myself to use this app instead.

This app is beloaded with features, from logged in recommended feed to searching for videos, its all included. Each of those features took about a day to add, but it is still a fun process. I skipped literal sleep for one night and had 2 hours of sleep for 2 other nights. At the end of those 5 days, I do not think I could even function properly as a human being. Nevertheless, let's jump back to the topic sentence of this paragraph and talk about the features of this app of mind. First of all the features, is the ability to read youtube as an article which is within the name of the app. Initially, I was going to add search algorithms to add in the missing periods, commas, and new paragraphs, but my lack of sleep took over me, and the fact that I am tired of everything about coding on the 5th day made this impossible. But while that feature is not implemented, you can still read youtube pain-free, it is just that you need to use more of your brain when reading it. Second of all features is the inclusion of the dates and views under the video title. Although this thing might be taken for granted on the normal youtube website, it is not given in a youtube replica. While making the app, I was actually debating with myself if I should add it or not. In the end, because I really want to have this feature when I actually use this app, I added it in and it took more than 2 hours. Moving on, the consecutive feature is the sidebar. Again, this is always taken for granted in normal apps, but when you are making an app alone, everything proves to be a challenge. Because of how impossible it is to navigate around the app without the sidebar, I took the time in making it and, in result, that took a day of work. At that point, I was already very frustrated, to have the core feature working while having everything else not working is not a good feeling. You always get the feeling of that you are so close to finishing the app yet you are not(I do not want to correct my grammar no more), and that is why there are still several bugs that pre-exist in the app right now.

Tired of talking, the other features that the app has is the ability to save channels to the sidebar, login to youtube, and have the recommended feed as youtube normally offers. The last feature really puzzles me a lot, because of all the other youtube replicas could not add the recommended feed into their app, yet it is the most important part of youtube. Either way, I still added this feature on the last night which I did not sleep.

This blog is all over the place and I am not writing well, I am craving sleep right now, so I will allow myself to go to that instead, peace.



2.5 June

Thoughts on "The Second Mountain" & Dropping of Blog's SEO score (2019-06-15 05:55)

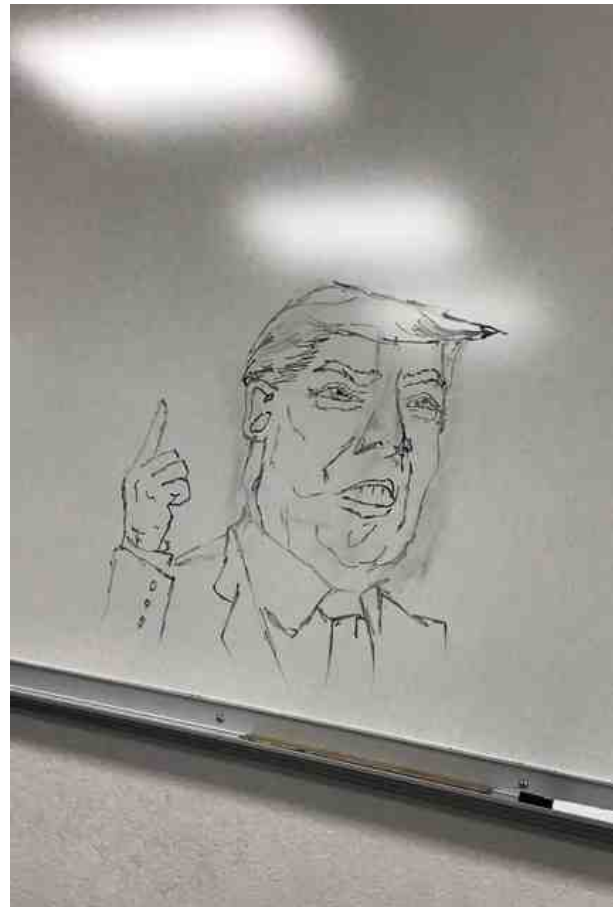
Due to the latest finals, I thought that it would be a good idea to stop everything that is non-essential in my life. And those things include programming, drawing, and my blog. Although I am more than happy to not write a sub-par essay every 2 or 3 days, my blog is suffering as it is dropping through the google search rankings. It had dropped so low that I don't even know what page it is on when I search "speedstor". But either way, I would always know that my blog wouldn't drop far in Bing or DuckDuckGo, not that anyone uses them.

Because of my lack of knowledge and things to type in a blog, I would continue my tradition of ranting about irrelevant topics. So, lately, I am reading two books and one of them is *The Second Mountain* by David Brooks. Just 3 pages into it, I am already disagreeing about everything written in that non-fiction book. *The Second Mountain* seeks to illustrate how human in our modern society go through two stages in life and that how these two stages differ from each other. He called these two stages each the first mountain, and the second mountain. The first mountain according to Brooks is one that people strive to meet their ego and ambition. He says people go into the world to earn money, to build and sustain their everyday necessities. Subsequently, the second mountain outlined by Brooks is the one that people realizes their selfishness or see that the world needs their help. They would go from working for their own good to bringing love to the world. One example he gave is that a manager of one company after the second mountain would no longer care that much about the overall efficiency of the company but instead focus on helping and teaching others what they know. The manager would understand the pain and troubles people are suffering and

offer their available help. While this first and second mountain concept isn't mentioned that much throughout the story, I oppose strong disagreement upon it. The only reason that I forced myself to continue finishing the book is that I want to have the right to criticize it. I want to say that I gave it its chance.

And to why I do not agree with his argument is pretty straightforward. It is just that I do not think these two stages should not be separated as much as to two separate mountains. Although that might not be very significant at first glance, it matters a lot to me. People, a lot of people, start helping and giving their all from the start of their life. And though they do give out a lot, their giving is their ambition and is their first mountain. If that is the case, the second mountain would not be applicable. Not to mention, what if one person starts helping people before they forget it and seek their ambition. This first and second mountain could be non-applicable in so many situations that I do not think it should be classified as such. To my honest opinion, I do not think there is any way to classify and categorize people life to a general form. Each person's life is unique and from the similarities of being born and experiencing death, I do not think human's life would be able to be separated into bits. Even people's time of giving birth and marriage differs to such a degree that it is arbitrary, and an individual life should not be put into carts (whatever that means).

All in all, I think that *The Second Mountain* is not that bad of a book. It succeeds in giving people a realization of their selfishness or their over-ambitious goal of making money. It is also able to give people(me) that normally helps others a desire to be even more helpful. The only downfall to the whole book is that it is based on an idea that life is of two parts, one of ambition and another one of helpfulness.



This is how bad my art has become through the half a year of not drawing

I drew this before the exam because I was bored to death, don't question about it

Kenneth (2019-06-17 01:55:57)
In fact, the drawing is not too bad.

Speedstor (2019-06-20 03:49:09)
Thank You

Superpowers - Hiding and Revealing Earned Skills (2019-06-22 08:54)

Having superpowers would be every kid's dream. To be able to surprise people or use the power for good really feels good. Growing

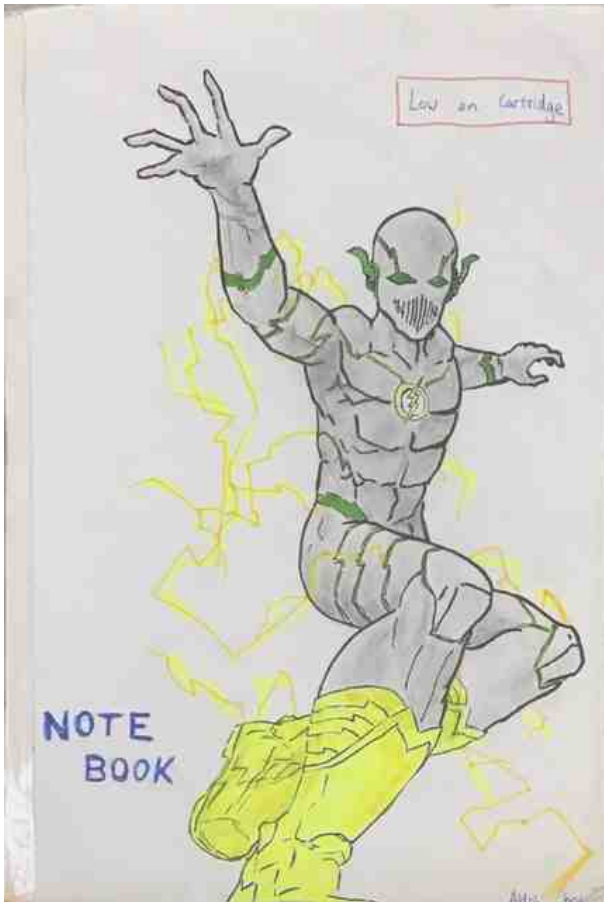
up watching superhero films and tv shows even to this day, I always thought of the possibility of actually making the fiction a reality. Although it is most likely impossible for such things such as super speed, I recently felt a familiar feeling of revealing a superpower. Although comparing one of my amateur skills to a superpower is annoying and insensible, I think it is quite the comparison that makes sense.

As I have a summer job and my weekdays are filled with it, I have to work for people (the obvious). During work, people treat me quite special for numbers of reasons, and one of them is that I am young. People expected relatively little from me. If I screw something up, I do not get the standard treatment in an office, not that I do screw up anything. My work consists of imperfection that I carelessly look over, but luckily there will always be a person to double check my work to ensure the normal operation of the office. And because of all my imperfections, people built a profile of me that writes me as a typical high schooler. Not a miracle nor a spoiled brat, and that I am just one of the many in the line high schoolers in the world. With that said, when they found out that I can actually do things, I was quite blushed. It felt good with me knowing that I have impressed some people. To be honest, all my life, I have been trying to impress people. I only post stories of me to my friends when I have done something that I think is impressive. I never post anything that normal, and I have always try to be above the normal crowd. I want to impress others, and revealing my skills to a new person really makes me feel like that they are impressed. It is like revealing a superpower, a thing that is not known but was be known. And it feels especially good when you are not the one telling them your skill. I feel super good when the revealing comes naturally, and that the people finding out are genuinely surprised.

In my job, I only revealed that I know programming and that I am very familiar with computers. I did not tell them that I am quite good at art, and it makes it quite fun for me

to keep it a secret until something comes and reveals it naturally. Although you could say that my fun in hiding a "superpower" is just another way of saying hiding a secret, that secret that I am able to hide is gained from my own work, interest, and some dedication. Knowing that you have done something significant (not that any of my stuff is) and that it is not known interests me a lot. It is such a fun thing to have a secret card that you could pull out whenever you want to.

In the end, I still need to work even more harder to keep my standard that I have set right now. The most dreaded things that I am concerned about is that I would stop improving myself since I think I'm the needle in a haystack of high schoolers. I know that my grades aren't the best, and neither is the difficulty of the classes that I am taking, but there is still a chance that I think I had enough of what I need and stop improving. People are amazed by my skills only because of my age, and it is not really about the rarity and difficulty of the skills itself. As I get older, if I still want to have a secret card that I could pull out and impress others, I have to work more diligently. This all may sound childish and trivial, but I guess anything that drives a person in the right direction should be classified as good quality or thought (typical me that find excuses).



Me in the world of my own fantasy land, where I still think that superspeed is possible

This is my own hand-made notebook that I loved and used to the last of the last bit.

2.6 July

Suppressing Desires (2019-07-22 07:10)

For most of my life, I have been told or to believe that I should suppress my desires and that it is one of the little ways that I could be successful. Although ambition and interests should be retained, desires for any material wealth or sequential happiness should be put out. There is a difference between interest

and desire, and that difference put a line between the conditions for whether we should retain it. But today (meaning a week ago cuz I'm lazy), as I was punching numbers into an ATM and retrieving my salary for the last month, the momentary feeling of satisfaction sparked a thought in my mind. My thought although is arbitrary and non-significant, I have never thought about it, and it really interests me a lot.

When I was small, toys are kept out of reach as parents tell me that I should work for it, that I should always try to better myself before getting what I want. When I was a bit older, my want for a computer was rejected countless time. When I finally got my computer, I never got enough free time to use the computer that I have gotten so difficultly. And even now, I am separated from my desire of working on my own personal projects as I have work. For most of my life, I was told that I should proof my worth for things that are not directly beneficial. What is interesting is that my long on-going desire for an object often doesn't ring as true after I got my hands on it. For example, I have once wanted a razer branded watch very badly. To get this watch, I charge people for my lunch delivery service in school. But after all the hard work, the watch that I got didn't feel as satisfying as I thought it would be. Most of the time, after all the hard work that I have given in, the payoff that I get in result doesn't match my expectations. I have built hype around objects just to be disappointed every time I got it. The only time that I am fulfilled by materialistic desires was when I buy them as soon as I wanted them. While my satisfaction does not stay for long, buying things as soon as I want them is the only way for me to enjoy it fully. Of course, there are always exceptions, and that long hard work does really translate to well-deserved satisfaction.

It occurred to me recently that the world is built upon all the natural feelings and desires of people. If people don't want a top of the line computer, the latest phone, new updated clothes, or even just the better than average

food, the system of our world's economy would fall. I have been told that the world is built upon buyers and sellers a long time ago, but I wasn't able to imagine the extension of this fact. People around the globe in cities are working to create new desires among people interchangeably, and these same people are using the money that they earned to buy other people's created attractions. It is a constant loop that is holding up the entire economy. The people that could suppress their desires and finance their saved money are the only ones breaking the loop, becoming more and more successful. All cities and economies are a set of irony that is designed to trap the working class in their place. Companies around the world are "working together" to help each other vacuum all the wealth of the employees to allow the wealthy to maintain their position.

One way of facing this phenomenon is to give in, to become a normal sub-par citizen in our very lucky centralized city. But I say the better way is to opt-out, to leave the loop and leave everything else to be settled by the rule of supply and demand. Our world is ever constantly demanding more hard work from people, and it is no longer enough to just aim our goal upon getting into college and receiving a job with a great starting salary. Not that I have the authority to say anything from experience, but just waiting in line to be the next pawn of society would not end up in a very interesting life. I argue that if we are going to lose everything when we meet our end, we shouldn't look at things that are necessary to survive but to look at how to achieve one goal after another.

Payday shouldn't be the happiest day of every week, but an achievement of a newly acquired skill should be instead. Although we as people are being trapped in this "buyers and sellers" society and need our salary to survive, we should be better than we are required to be.

P.S: I am really not justified to say all this

stuff, but I really want to post this new artwork that I did, and I want all my blogs to have a certain word limit.

[1]



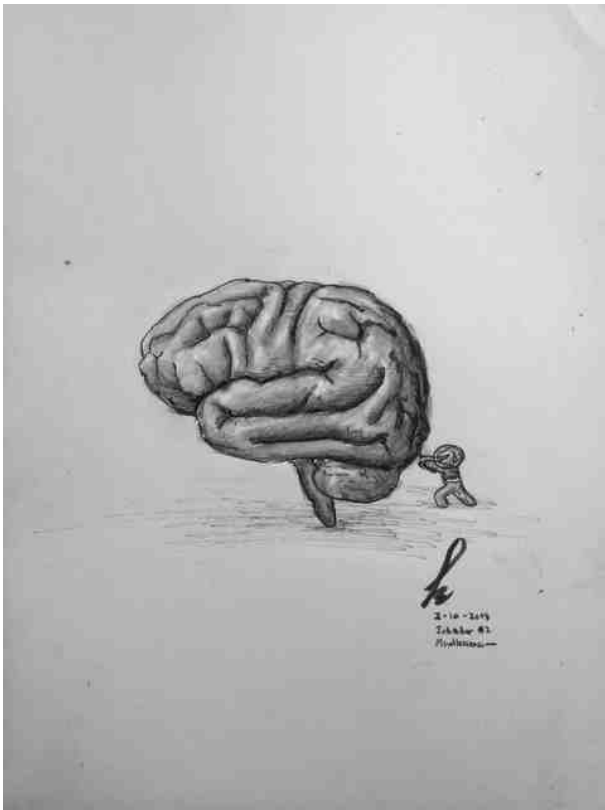
An half-quick sketch of the spiderman from "far from home"

1. https://1.bp.blogspot.com/-9Q1dCYef_Rs/XTW_U0sfbWI/AAAAAAAAAD2o/jsLX1F7hPqgKC4vEyPWeZQz2eawYjn22gCLcBGAs/s1600/IMG_0266.PNG

2.7 October

#1 method of saving time (2019-10-22 19:54)

Put on your headphones and pretend the outside world does not exist.



1. 2019

1.1 November

Born with a Head Start (2019-11-03 03:25)

Toward the start of the semester, I wrote a blog post about my frustration within my new IB schedule. In that post, I was going to talk about how the hard-work that one put in doesn't correlate with their result. The result of the hard-work would only be an improvement compared with the lack thereof. Within the academic structure, it is a very unfair and unjustified situation when the student that works hard gets a lower grade than the one being lazy. There seems to be a genetic difference between people that determines their "intelligence". But this is not true, the people that seem to be smarter and putting in less effort are only that way because they had worked hard when they are young. Their parents have guided them through more practice and left them with more experiences when it comes to school. In contrast, the students who need to work marginally harder is that way because they had never been taught the right way of facing a problem. Gifted individuals are born with a head start due to their unconscious effort made when they are young.

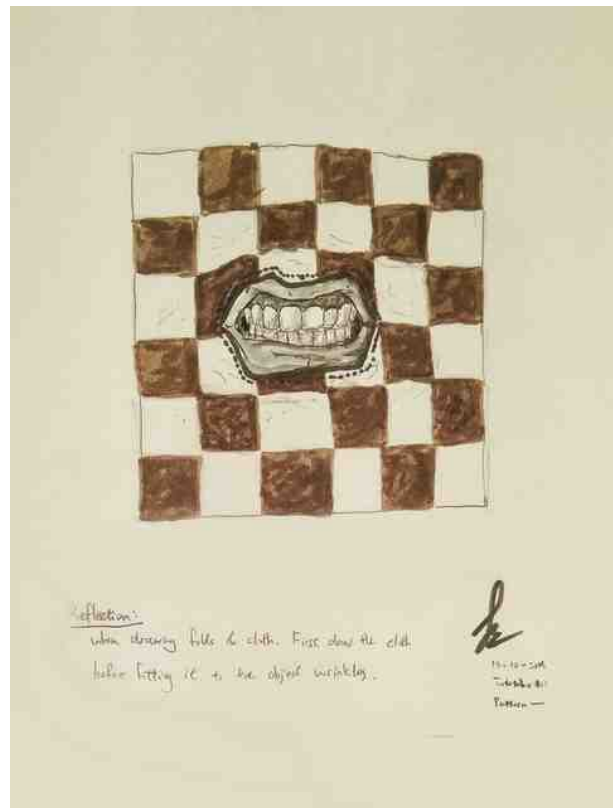
The difference in the time for different people to understand a concept varies extensively, and it stays true even when they are being taught the same way. It explains why some people need hours upon hours of extra-dedicated tutoring while others understand at the instant the teacher explains. The way that some people already have the training of interpreting new information saves them from the need for previewing or even reviewing. While these "gifted" people procrastinate or invest their free time, the unfortunate need to work an extra mile to get to the same place. These late-starters require double, triple, or quadruple the time to catch up with the "gifted" peo-

ple. This all is evident in my process of teaching a multitude of people coding. Some of the people that I taught are in the highest coding class offered in school, while the others are coding for their first time. These two types of people understand new concepts in two very different speed. While the ones who learnt coding for three years could recreate my examples in one attempt, the ones new to coding need my step-by-step commentary of what their thought-processes need to be. This two type of people is meshed by the people in the middle: the ones who have developed a coding (step-by-step) mindset from past experiences. Although all of these people work and think with the same degree of concentration, the time that takes them to understand and reproduce a skill demonstrated range according to their past experiences. Their lack of past experiences suffocate them from the ability to understand, and they have to work harder to do the same thing as others.

In the IB classroom, the effort that each student varies a lot, but the grades of each individual are not that different. The lowest grade for a person would be a B(me :(, lol), not really even a B-. This difference in the effort put into schoolwork inversely correlate how much extra-curricular activity that person has. The ones that treat IB as a walk in the park are part of the "international"(?) debate team, asb, part of nation-wide internships and more that I feel like its there (I don't stalk people). The things that I mention that the "intelligent" is part of comes in combinations, and it shocks me as because any one of them would completely use all my time. These people could handle the IB classes with ease and continue with their desire to achieve more. In the contrary, there are the ones that dedicate all their time to only IB. These people while getting similar or even worse grades that the ones with their hands full work all day to review and catch up (I speak of this from my experience and my intuition on what I think

about other's situation, not really that convincing, but bare with me, or not). This difference comes from the past experience one have in school. For me, I had always been in standard level classes all my life. From the start of grade 7, I had accustomed to myself to the work-load of these comparatively easy classes(I didn't have a choice, really), and I always had a slow and inefficient way of understanding course materials. In response to the unplanned but weekly tests, it takes me upwards of 4 hours to review for a chapter. While others are going through flashcards, I am going through a process of making notes digitally, hand-writing them, covering them and reciting it at the end (flashcards for me would result in an F, maybe a bit exaggerated, but you get what I mean). Although work had been put in for all of the students, the time it takes for one to prepare differs a lot from another.

While the work put in by different people differs, people who have started learning earlier enjoys the benefit of getting good results despite the lack of work. The people without a head-start needs to work harder. And despite being negative about having and not having a head start, this phenomenon tells us that what Albert Einstein said about hard-work is true: "Genius is 1 % talent and 99 % percent hard work..." And for the ones who have disadvantages, it only comes more true that anyone could make up their lack of hard work just by starting to be diligent. As a famous Chinese saying puts it: "If you don't proceed, you are retracting"



An Art I did for Inktober: wasn't the best ever, but I was bulk doing 6 of these in an hour, lol
plus it is for the blog thumbnail

1. <http://scriptgenerator.net/really-simple-embed-audio-player-script/>

Grammar And My inUnderstanding of it (2019-11-05 01:53)

It's 12:25 in the morning right now, and my consciousness is slowly drifting away. But either way, I wanted to write this blog about grammar that goes along with the last post I did about effort. While I have been learning English since I was born and had wonderful Native English teachers that taught me English 1-to-1, the only thing that I seem to get out of it is my sort of American accent. Despite all the thought that my parents had put into

Your browser does not support the audio element.

[1]

My attempt at making an acapella... lol. I know its a bit - very off.

I will just scrap and redo the whole thing again.

but either way, I wanted to share it on somewhere that no one will notice

visualizing my needs in the future, I still lack much in the category of English grammar. I do not know when to capitalize words, how to spell words without Grammarly, or even differentiate between slang and formal words. My diction in essays suffers in a way that I do not use words adequately and in the right way.

For the last in-class-essay that I got back today, there were 14 mistakes that my teacher could not resist in underlining. Although the overall score for the essay was actually good, the bad grammar was probably discounted. This being the first-ever in-class-essay that I took gives me a buffer in what small mistakes that I could get away with, but this bad trait of my writing would only come around to bite me in the back in the future during formalized tests. The History essay that I just did was more on the side of a research paper and the use of evidence presented outside of class tells the teacher the effort one had put in. For me, I am guessing that my use of outside sources detailed to history books presents my effort in trying very much. This effort that I put in masks the underlying problem of my grammar. As I was typing out my mistakes into my digital notebook, I couldn't help but laugh at my inability to spell. Even after the indication of the wrong spelling, I was left with a blank mind. Although the word looks and sounds weird and insensible, I cannot for the life of me figure out the correct spelling. The grammar problem that I have is more than just the time-constraint but is also of how I could not differ between "al" and "le" when spelling. While others are complaining about words with the same pronunciation in Chinese, I am struggling with similar sounds in English syllables.

The solution to this problem is to just write more in handwriting and quit being too reliant on digital grammar correctors. I have to get rid of this trait of mine within a year to be prepared for the internal & external assessments that are going to come. There is much disconnect between me and my set goal of college and my future, but I see the possible effort that I could put in to fix it. While not

everything in life has a straight-forward and definite easy answer, the solution to the problem of my grammar could be boiled down to writing with more and with caution to my error in grammar.



Another art for Inktober. I love Inktober, always gives me things to post with a constant stream.

the correct spelling. The
nt but is also of how I could n
plaining about words with the
nds in English syllabals.

lol, as I was saying about "al"s and "le"s

Admiration of Meursault's detachment from the world - The Stranger (Thoughts on my goals in life) (2019-11-11 23:27)

I have just read halfway through "The Stranger" and the character Meursault inspires me and resonates with this character a lot. This character with a characteristic of being emotionless and detached from the real world is what I have been striving for a long time. I wanted to record my thoughts upon this extremely relatable story of Meursault before I lose it.

For all my life, I look forward to characters that could detach themselves from their own desires and live for a greater significance. In Chinese kungfu fiction, these characters go out to help others despite their own cause, and in the Fountainhead, the character was focused on making a more productive world. These characters seem so powerful to me as because they do not care about themselves, the unfortunate or unfairness being opposed to them are ignored despite the devastating effect that it would leave behind. Their detachment to the outside world levitates time for them to think cautiously about their actions. Things that may traumatise one would not affect these detached characters. They live in a higher plane of existence that could ignore the effects that pushed them. Their life is no longer cause and effect, but rather of pure action. Although Meursault in *The Stranger* is no powerful hero or a highly intelligent being, he could always allow room for thinking and analyzation of his surrounds in busy and distracting areas. He was able to grasp all the conversations within the room of prison meetings while everyone is shouting

their dialogues. On top of all that, he is still able to have a straight conversation with his girlfriend and describe his feelings towards her. His awareness and attentive observations although does not explain his relatively stupid actions in his life, it illustrates a big deal of maturity and understanding of the world. His detachment from the world and detail observations resembles the characteristics of a spy. A spy similarly has to forget his personal duties and contribute to the bigger cause. And his observations resembles that of a detective, understanding everything in his sight of vision. While his detachment from the world left him with a bad outcome within his life because of his desire to help others, he is one model that I would forever look up towards.

One of the many ways that Meursault shows his indifference to the world and uncaring of what people think is his way of describing his feeling. While he understands the meaning of happiness, sorrow, sadness, annoyance, he cannot relate these feelings to himself. His act of wanting Maurie, dreaming of her, and enjoying her presence would be quantifiable as love, but he described as not. He detaches his definition of love from his desire for this woman. He understands that he has this exact feeling with other women that he knew, and he reasoned that the feeling of "love" is not loyal to any of them. While Romeo in his story switches his desire for a girl in days and was not aware of it, Meursault is aware of all his emotions. He is in a higher plane of existence as he could understand and analyze his own past experiences. And in addition to his awareness of emotions, he is also very acute when in distracting environments. While I have already mentioned his ability to notice details in the prison meetings, he also was able to pick out details in a courtroom where he is being trailed. His future was defined in the courtroom as to whether he could own his freedom, but he treats it with indifference and was able to notice details again. He was able to understand each facial movement and gesture that the opposing lawyer made. He could notice the details about the crowd's

reaction, and his slow thinking and detailing suggests that he also understand his every consequence in his response. While he chose to answer all the questions from the bottom of his heart and with a supernatural amount of honesty, his attentiveness to all the details in the courtroom makes me believe that he is aware of everything that will happen to him beforehand. It is his uncaring to what the world will do to him that affect his decision in his responses.



An artwork that I did during the summer (a long time ago)
It serves as a break for the long long blog post that I just wrote
It is for the people that actually read my post, lol, whatever, I do it for my own benefit.

My believe of his thought of how the world can do whatever to me and I will just live as it goes is what I strive to believe in as well. The only thing that matters to my life is that I am doing my own sole best and am aware of and could predict my future. I want to have the ability to analyze my actions and make a decisions based upon it. And in addition, I would also strive to make that decision independent of my own life. I want to have the "power" that these fictional character has that allows them to live for a greater cause. They could understand their actions and tweak them in the way of shaping the bigger world. The ability

to analyze one's surrounding in detachment to the correlation to oneself allows for one person to become more powerful in a sense that it makes them the contributor. In Ayn Rayn's book of Atlas Shrugged, it states how people rip from the empowered and live off of them like parasites. And the most powerful characters within those books are the ones that do not care about whether people live off of him and take advantage of him. They live as because they want to live, and they do not care much about the consequences that they get for doing the good things. They are only interested in what they are able and will produce, and not care about how they are being punished for their good acts. They are helping a society that stabbed them in the back. This also resembles Jesus and I guess it is where I am coming from. These characters are all like Jesus in a way that they are not interested in their own affairs and are only interested in helping others in their best abilities. Jesus saved mankind with his own suffering, dedication, and sacrifice of life. The main character in Atlas Shrugged provided the world with his amazing new metal without cost, in unfairness, and with people trying to take over his business (while others are trying to just let them rot and wait for them to die out). The main character in The Fountainhead provided the world with his stunning new design without complaint, under criticism, under poverty, without defiant (he delivered when people wanted it). The characters from the Chinese Kungfu fictions save lives that do not want to be saved, be humble while others laugh at them being weak (while not being weak) [hiding of their true abilities], and live to better other people lives instead of themselves. These characters all live for others, uncaring for themselves.

In in my own ways, I always try to be like these fictional character(1) in a way that I help people despite my situation (I don' really follow this too much). I try to help people in detachment of my responsibilities as being a student. I would try to disregard my desire to draw, to do the extra-curricular activities that I like in place of helping others, tutoring

others to my best ability (2). My relatively diverse skill that ranges from video editing, 3d animation, drawing, coding, attempt in self-improvement allows me to help others, it is only my lack in my trying that I had failed to be like these characters. I also refer to how we should always help ourselves out with the oxygen mask on a plane before others because without situating ourselves, it would only cause our inability to help others later. It is more efficient to help myself and then use my 200 % to help others. But this is an excuse and I should work toward perfecting my own ability so that I do not need to care about myself. Like in the plane again, I could gain the ability to not needing to breathe oxygen(3) and then gain the ability to help others. It is acquiring power for myself in the bigger picture of helping others. I want to be the most powerful person in a room(maybe also just for personal selfish desire) and be able to help others or be aware of everything that is going on.

With all this rambling, I was just trying to get all my thoughts down on paper so that I could review them later on (Edit: now that I have reviewed on it once, it shows the problems with my current mindset, lol. im like overconfident annoying guy). I could barely articulate my role-model in life and what my goal is(4). I know I want to live for a greater cause (maybe, now I say it, I just want to have a satisfying personal life), but I do not know how so. After reading half of *The Stranger*, I sense my ability to articulate some of it, and so this is just me typing what I think without much attention to the output.

I may just rewrite this later because I really want to clearly articulate my ideas, but when do I ever do what I say I am going to do.

Now that I have put down all my thoughts that I gained from reading the class-required *The Stranger*, I need to do the study guide that goes along with it, lol. Ahhh, it's like 10: 17 pm and it is due tmr. Ah, lol. Ah. as dfa sdf. I love not doing work on the first 2 days of a 3 day weekend.

(1)I know that these godly qualities are existing in real-life examples as well, it is just that I only get to experience the fiction examples for now and is only inspired by those with these narratives for now.

(2) trying to help others is one reason, but I also reason myself with how I would just procrastinate in response to the additional time that I get from not helping other people.

(3) One of the ways that I try to better my own ability is now with a daily schedule that I do. It records the to-do list of the way and how I spread out my to-do list. It somehow just ends up me having a burnout every other week, but I think it is a step in the right direction for putting this on.

(4) Being able to visualise one's goal would help them more easily work towards it.

All of Meursault awareness of his surrounds might solely originate from the author's desire to convey the overall environment that Meursault was in, but this does not change the fact that Meursault noticed everything he did. While this might not be intentional, and his detachment from the world only means his uneducated and simple background, it is ingrained into his character and that alone inspires me of what I want myself to become.

1.2 December

Understanding Others - It is always not people's fault (2019-12-21 16:17)

Just learning about the release of the movie *IP Man 4*, I went back to rewatch the amazing kungfu fight scenes in previous IP Man movies. One of these scenes is the fight between ip man and a flawed protagonist that unrightfully presses others for money to maintain his family and protect the existence of traditional Kong Fu against the influence of western

boxing. This flawed protagonist started off as the antagonist as only his money lusting side is shown, but as the story moves on, the reasons for his actions were revealed. The demonstration of how people's wrongful doings has its sensible origin perfectly aligns with my view and understanding of others. It draws parallels to a topic I had with my homestay brother of how its not people's fault when they do drugs.

Toward the start of the semester, my homestay brother discussed with me about the situation of drugs and how people from our school did it last year. His stance was that these people are all 100 % wrong and they should have known better than to use their economic stability on addictive chemicals. But I, on the other hand, argued that we cannot blame these people as because it is their past experiences and background that led them into the position. If these people do not have an outlet that they could buy drugs from, they would not be able to do drugs. No matter how bad a person can be, there is still a reason and a build-up that make them the way they are. Our personalities and decisions are all based on our past memories, and our memories are governed by external factors. While we all should take responsibility for our every action, it is always not the person's fault for their actions. To a certain extent, our brain is similar to a computer as all our thoughts are determined by the independent neurons firing and we do not have control over our actions. Our interactions between people are just part of the big chain reaction of chemicals that is started during Big Bang. While the people that do drugs are undoubtedly false and unjustified, it is not their fault at all. They have their own reasons that they end up in that situation. It may be because their parents were never beside them or maybe because they gained their internal justification from how their friends and idol all suddenly do drugs all a sudden. The point I am trying to get to is that all actions by people have their own reasons, no matter good or bad. And if we are going to criticize people, we should do our part to prevent the things we criticize

instead just talking about how they are wrong. But while I am very clear of this concept myself, I still could not get my homestay brother to understand it after hours of debating with him. And the example of people having their own reasons in *IP Man 2* may demonstrate the point better with its more down to earth situation.

Within *IP Man 2*, the flawed protagonist is the head of all kung fu masters in Hong Kong called Master Hung. When Yip Man tried to independently start his own martial art centre, Hung tried to stop him with a challenge to a duel and requiring a mandatory monthly martial art community fee. Hung's act of selfishness to maintain his spot of being the best fighter and feeding off other's money is entirely wrong. And the fact that he is preying on the economically troubled Yip Man makes it just the worse. But even in his sinful acts, the later backstory of him that explains his family and dignity issues justifies his earlier actions. In the film, it is said that he is a father of around 6 (I don't want to look it up, and is always verbally insulted by western boxers. His private life is stretched to an intangible degree, and he had been eating down and absorbing all the negative atmosphere and providing the martial art community with a healthy western(1) free environment. He had done a lot for the kong fu community without people's understanding. He is taking all the blame for his wrongful actions, but these wrongful actions truly originate from western dominance and imperialism. His life is of selflessness where he dedicates his all to his family and traditional Kung Fu. While what he did is sinful in itself, it is easy to understand his intentions and reasons.

Master Hung and the people that do drugs are similar in a way that they are misguided and influenced into their own respective situations. The difference between them is that we do not know the backstory of the people that do drugs. While this does not negate any of their responsibilities, we should develop an understanding that it is not their fault. In the IB diploma program, one of the major topics is

to be open-minded, and it perfectly illustrates the message of the movie. We should always seek to understand where others are coming from and their reasons for their actions. If a person is failing math at school, it might be because they weren't forced to remember the multiplication table in primary school. If a person has a weird accent that they can't get rid of, it is probably because he had been listening to that accent since he was born. If someone isn't attentive or is rude, it is probable that he did not have caring friends or parents themselves. It is crucial in this era with global connectedness that we try to understand other's perspectives and treat others accordingly.

(1) western culture isn't toxic or bad, its just how the movie portrayed it.

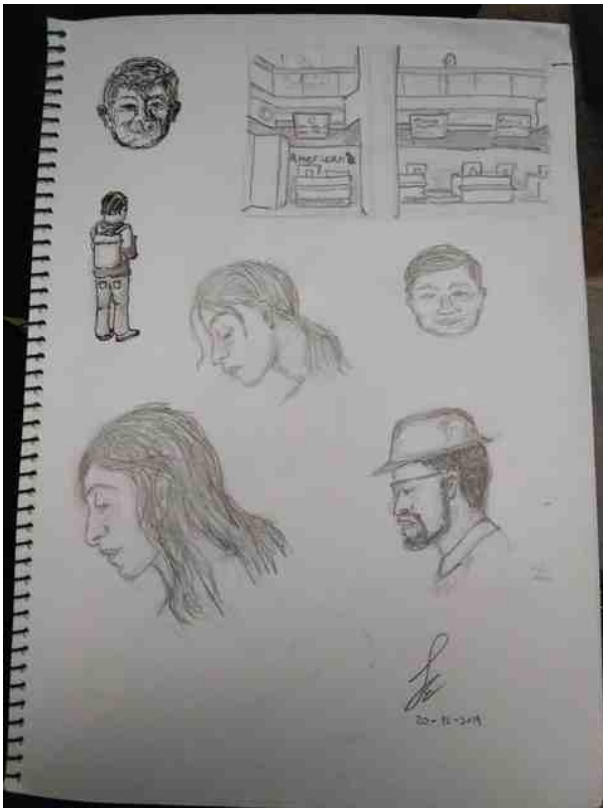
Kenneth (2019-12-22 23:32:40)

Good that you have own viewpoint and being objective.

Catudal Nguyen (2020-01-24 09:54:28)

Same point as you, especially when looking from hindsight, we can all justify someone's reason for doing something. I think that's what open-mindedness is: extending your view into time AND space so you're not just restricting yourself.

Like that you bring Ip Man in.



Quick Sketches of people in the airport to my best ability

(the real people are nothing like what I drew, but whatever)

2. 2020

2.1 February

The extent of being Diligent (2020-02-03 13:53)

Lately, I have been slacking off every day. My excuse to this is that I am in a constant effort of being more social. While being more social may be fun and relaxing, it is also very time-consuming. The time I usually I have to myself is now non-existent, and it is all spent on being active. Last semester, I handled this by sleeping less and my integrity was kept by the amount of homework. But this semester, homework load is very little and I find myself not working as hard. I still pay attention in class and do everything with care, but the difference is that I do nothing extra anymore. While last semester me would stay up late to one o'clock just because I didn't preview the next days material, I would give up homework that is not due on the next day this semester. My goal that I work towards each day is only to finish homework and nothing more. This whole new attitude of mine resulted in my recent lower grades.

While I am more relaxed and just sort of happier this semester, I have put off my duties of studying as a student. But at the same time, if you would ask me whether I had worked hard during this period, I would answer with a very firm yes. I had been working non-stop when I'm not socializing. After I go home, I go straight to my room and start working through my papers like a machine. The only discounted fact is that I go home around 6 and start working around 8. That only leaves me 4 hours of work assuming that I sleep at 12. If I would have gone home early, that leaves me an additional 5 hours each day. This situation reminds me of how I always used to hear people say that they had worked their ass off despite average grades, and I had never understood how their hard-work translated

to their result. Now, I see that while people could work to 12 or even later each day, it is the extra details of their choice on what they want to do. While socializing and studying doesn't make a totally opposite, managing the healthy balance between the two could be said as a craft. It comes down to the age-long question of how to balance work and life. One doesn't mean the guaranteed destruction of the other, and we have to be careful in making sure we do not neglect either one.

In the past, I do not see any value in socializing, and that takes me to work on myself and enjoying my time always. It allowed me to have those extra hours compared with others that hang out each day. This way of living is not problematic, but it sure makes it more monotonous. It deprives you of the skill of understanding others genuinely. While you could help others with their work with the more introverted lifestyle, you would not be likely to be a source of relaxing outlet among friends, but rather of pure assistance. I find myself unable to integrate myself into groups, and there is always a notion of my "superiority" floating around. I find most the topics all go around to all places, but seldom skip the stop of what I can do. This of respecting one's "talents" isn't inorganic in conversations, and in fact, it mostly takes turns between different people's ability. But when it is always that one person's ability, the same cannot be said. And for my period of observing, this problem originates in the lack of my praise for others. With my mentality of just focusing on myself when working on my skills, I become unappreciative of what other's can do. When I am working on a skill of mine, I always disregard what the top of the mountain is. There will always be a person better than you, and someone that's worse. There is no point in being bumped out because someone can do something better. I see this of being not competitive, and it is a beneficial quality for

self-growth. The American education system is built around hiding the ranking of people, and where you are placed. It is proven to encourage people more. I had just wandered off to justifying my mentality for my work, I digress. Back to where I lack in conversations, I found that I littlely mention others' strengths and congratulate them of what they can do. Normally, this is a natural thing to bring up, and it is very helpful in making people feel great. But through my lack of socializing (excuse), this is one of the many attributes of mine that makes me speechless, awkward during conversations. While other catalyze communication, I deprive atmospheres of it. For me, I have a need to analyze the situations during conversations to chime in and make an impact.



for thumbnail, i'm still to lazy to code my own blog site

This blog had gone from my perspective of individuals' hard work to me reflecting on one of the reasons of why I'm unhealthy in conversations. To all these conditions, I just need to keep being aware and reflect upon myself. This blog is quite unorganized without a central point nor a thesis. It's just there and it's published because I haven't posted for a while. The problem of me right now is that I am not appreciative of others and that I now spend a little bit too much time socializing and I have to be working during times of communicating.

2.2 March

Being driven by Trends - Social Panic Psycho - Coronavirus (2020-03-17 01:12)

Coronavirus is coming around the block and the lagged behind US had publicly announced their suspension of almost all activities. Around 2 or 3 months ago the same thing happened to China and they got most of their schools switched to online learning and jobs are switched to online when available. Never having the experience of being within social distress, this virus shows me the extent to which a trend could be started by a piece of news outsource and if it's justified.

To my understanding, there were more than 10 thousand deaths with causes related to flu last year in the US, and that many people in China kept their suspicious of how the coronavirus originated from the US because of it. The deadly nature of flu had persisted in our social life and had rarely been focused upon, but with China drawing attention to their issue of a deadly virus, the US somehow

Trying to learn from end game's framing timing and aesthetic,

remade couple seconds from the movie

got a delayed impact reaction to it. At first, there was a strong denial of the existence of the virus, saying that the known cases are all founded with reasons and that the threat is contained. After a month of the repeating reassurances of the same facts, people started the toilet buying frenzy based on the government advice of stocking 2 weeks worth of supplies. As laid out in [1]this blog, toilet paper should be everyone's least worries. It's one of the cheapest necessities and the rather abundant ones. Even if the situation gets worse, the government can hand out toilet paper to each family for free without much care. And even if it goes out of stock by the very slim off chance, there are many substitutes to toilet paper that could be easily think of, regular paper would be one.

There is a tendency to follow the trend in the US. I couldn't say anything about other countries that I know of because China seizes a very dominant role in controlling people's lives. When an order for suspending all social activities have been given, people must obey. Differently, the US is all about freedom, and with all the reassuring news about the virus being contained and non-lethal, the act of ignoring became second nature to most organizations. The tipping point for people's act of ignoring was sports organizations' decision to suspend games. After the NFL, NBA and the Football Association decided to take action, there was a domino effect that forces everyone else to follow. Schools announced their starting of online classes and jobs told their employees to go off work. There is a unified feeling of not wanting to be in blame in case of accidents in the future that suddenly exists. The decision made by NBA was quite reasonable: they had one player that got the virus and had proven to be quite unexpected. But this one piece of puzzle took away everyone's safety excuse of how "others also didn't shut down". It all comes down to what you could do when you are put on the table and had to give explanations. Being the first to screw up is tolerable, but being second to screw up with warning posted is total guilt.

This all leads to the effect of how "I need to do it because everyone else is doing it". If everyone else if taking precautions, it would be exponentially bad for me to be caught with blood over my hands. If everyone is suspending their activities, I would be in big trouble if a virus spreads because of my ignorance. If everyone is buying out toilet paper, I would be caught in a sticky situation when I do need it. A line from *Persepolis*, illustrates the situation very straightly: "If everyone buys a sufficient amount, there will be supplies for everyone". And if everyone is buying more than they should, it forces the remainder of people to charm in for sustaining themselves. All it takes to throw the balance of buying a sufficient amount is one panic. One crazy act of one inspires others to do the same. If one person suddenly buys 5 stacks of toilet paper out of the blue, it questions the viewer to see if they should do the same. While this philosophy works very well in case of a zombie apocalypse, and everyone should do the same in that case, we should question ourselves if the situation now is a zombie apocalypse. Are we going to be locked in our houses for more than 2 weeks? From what I see, no. People are still allowing their children to roam around taking instagram pictures in social places while they are worried that they might not be able to go to the supermarket in a week.

Most of the time, everything is simple and easy in hindsight. My teacher joked about how this virus crisis will be something to be laughed about in a couple years. The sars never became anything funny in Hong Kong. But for the issue pertaining to toilet paper, prices skyrocketed to 100 bucks for 6 rolls in a day and plummeted back down to 20 in the other. During the day where toilet paper was sold for 100, I myself questioned my need for those paper. With the knowledge that it would probably return to normal in a matter of days, I was opposed to the viewpoint of what if it doesn't and it became a real concrete demand.

People are driven by media and others' actions, and while being overly-cautious is

what gets us out of accidents, being too cautious will seriously affect the efficiency of any action.

[2]



In trying to make a masterpiece of Kevin Durant, I ended up with an above avg artwork according to my ability... but nothing close to a masterpiece :(, lol

1. <http://theconversation.com/theres-plenty-of-toilet-paper-in-the-us-so-why-are-people-hoarding-it-133300>
2. https://1.bp.blogspot.com/-GoV1TLRgSSc/XnCIjB2cX8I/AAAAAAAAAGI0/jue6B_fvcegG0cvhzwODF_-rFx9c105zACLcBGA/sYHQ/s1600/Untitled_Artwork%25281%2529.png

For thumbnail



2.3 April

Competitiveness - and its relation to success (2020-04-05 13:22)

I should be writing a rough draft for an essay due tomorrow right now, but across my youtube procrastination, I've seen the extent of which competitiveness comes into play in achieving greatness. As like anything, growing up, I have been familiarized that the only one thing you need to strive to defeat is yourself and that others mean not a lot when it comes to self-improvement. But looking at examples at basketball players, they strive to be the best, and would not be satisfied with anything less. While they are always improving, the narrative that these YouTubers fit them in implies that they would be content if they are the best. Stephen Curry within his masterclass series opposes this viewpoint as he said that every time he goes into the gym, he aims to come out better than he was when he went in and not to be better than someone. Compared with Kobe, what I understand is that he wants to win and be the best in the field every time he plays. Despite some counter-examples, there is more of a motif of the successful people all being competitive and aiming to

surpass the next better person. While I do not care much about how other people are better, I question if I should adopt the same mentality.

I do not much like being competitive. If a person is better than me, then he is better than me, and I know thousands of people are better than him. If I strive to beat him, then there will still be thousands, or, to be honest, millions that are better than this heightened me. There is just no good reason to look upon a person and say you are better. But without that, it might hinder your ambition to become better. When you isolate yourself from the competition, then your pace of improvement is taken out of context. You might be improving faster or slower than others, and you would have no idea. But the opposite is also troublesome: Taking in how other people are better and improving faster than you comes frustration, and probably everyone has first-hand experience at this. Frustration for me does not translate to productivity, and it instead takes the form of giving up. If you are already working at your hardest and a person is still better and improving faster, what are your chances of catching up? I always saw competitiveness as a negative thing, and I think I am justified. Horrible things had been derived from human competitiveness as people battles each other and sacrifice lives for the cause.

But more often than not, this chaos that comes from being competitive results in advancements that would be non-existent otherwise. Human competitiveness to gain more land, and be nationally more competent had led to wars that brought us technology. Competitiveness between companies to earn more money than the other brings us better products. Competitiveness to get into college had everyone being more educated. There is a strong case to be made for competitiveness, but I am still not sold. In the past, I just wanted to create, to make things out of nothing. This desire of mine drove me to "educate" myself on coding, drawing... and even in some case, studying. I wanted to materialize fictional moments, programs, and commodities from

my parents in each of the cases. This drove me to be kinda "talented" among peers as I am above average with coding, drawing, and with grades. I have gained a better "life grade" without competitiveness, and it proves that success does not need to be tied with it. But at the same time, if you were to stuck me in a testing facility with my peers currently, I am nowhere near being at the top. More so just above average.

The lack of competitiveness explains my situation now in school. In Hong Kong or Shanghai, I was not driven by the grade rankings that are always publicized in Chinese schools. I normally rank above average, and once 32 out of the grade. Having a sister that periodically ranks top 10 or higher in the grade never troubled me much. I never think much about people who are better, nor did I care. But in hindsight, I am quite frustrated by how I didn't want to rank higher. A more ambitious young self would provide me with much more substance to studying at school now. While others at the same grade as me are perfectly comfortable writing both English and Chinese essays, I am currently borderline okay with English and hiccupy with Chinese. With a more solid background in academics, I believe I would be way more fluent in both. Not being competitive leads to my less successful position in academics.

With competitiveness proving to be an important motivation to achieve greatness, the question that comes is why can't we improve without it. In my eyes, Elon Musk is the perfect example of improving without pressure. Currently, Elon Musk is trying to build an underground hyperspeed transportation system, and he is faced with great criticism. People question the success rate or benefit of such transportation. If this were in times of "hyper-overpopulation" and everyone is rushing to find the big solution to the problem, the competition would naturally justify Elon Musks intention. Elon Musk said that technology would not improve by itself, without taking a great leap. And the lack of competition in people makes people fail to identify the need

for this great leap. If the world is aligned with Elon Musks philosophy and is on board with self-improvement without competition, then negativity from trying to beat others does not need to persist. But this idealized ideology is not yet true, and the majority of people, including me, would need competition to motivate them.

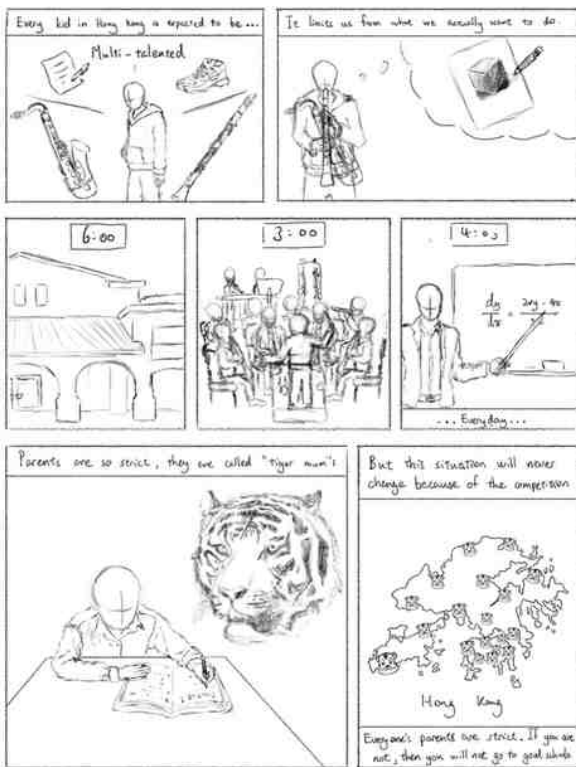
The topic is - a stereotype about people from a place.

As much as I like being isolated from comparison and hate competitiveness, I think I could use a lot of competitiveness. The only downside is that competitiveness also brings negativity and exhaustion. But unless I have a better motivation for improving, I think this is the only option for now. However, at the same time, I seldom do what I say I am going to do, and I very much do despise comparison, so I will just see what will become of me in a couple of months and look back again.

Giver - Taker: Ventilating my frustrations (2020-04-23 17:37)

I've just yesterday watched a TED talk on the topic of givers and takers in a community. Givers as in people who has incredible amounts of generosity, and help without expectation for something in return. The talk concluded that the givers make up both the best and worst performers at their job, and the successful givers do their giving with the knowledge that they are appreciated at the end. Consequently, the group of people in between are called the matchers, and they believe in "an eye for an eye". On the end of the spectrum, the takers just benefit off the giver's work with a simple thank you.

I identify myself as a giver. Now, I am aware that the moment you call yourself one thing, you are not that anymore. I need to admit, I am not a 100 % giver, and I sometimes breakdown and just say... no. In school, among some of my friends, there is a thing called having an Aldrin, and it makes me smile each time I think of it. I to them is so generous or unique that my characteristics are worth naming after me. And strangely enough, these friends that identify me as the Aldrin are not the ones that I help but the ones that see my actions from a third-person view. I hold a belief that because I would lose everything upon death and can't ever achieve anything long-lasting, my purpose in life is to affect and help others. And when I do sometimes become thoughtful of myself, I think of it as a stepping stone as because I can't help others when I need help my own.



A clique comic that I was tasked to do for homework.

This act of giving on my end is sometimes stressful. Somedays, I would give my all

to help others in the golden hours of a day (10am - 4pm), and the time left for myself to catch up with my supposed work is shortened to being nonexistent. Extreme cases go similar to this: I would have 4 or 5 homework along with multiple tests due on the next day, but a person needs help. I would shut up about my struggles and help that person with a positive attitude throughout the 7 hours. And at the end, I would go back home and work till 4 or 5 midnight. With all that said, the people that I help understand that they are being takers and would do anything to become a matcher, to return a favour, and that is where my problem come in.

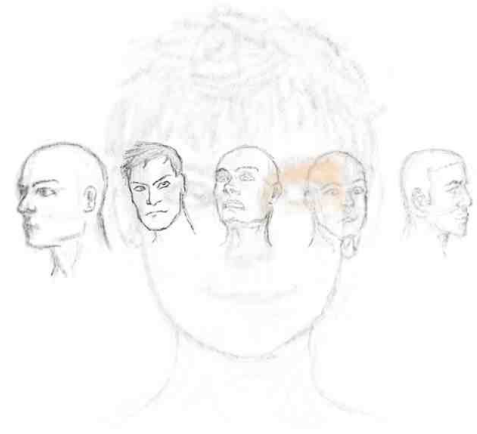
I have written a similar blog like this in the past, and I came out of it very stingy(I deleted the post afterwards). I just want to throw it out there that I am just ventilating my frustrations, and is just trying to cure my breakdown.

Lol, back to the topic, my problem, when people try to return a favour, is that I don't request any help. They have the thought on their mind of how they must pay me a favour, and would do a lot of things to help me. Although these help are very genuine, they end up having me to give even more. The most frustrating act of repaying is to socialize with me. People normally can immediately see that I am a stranger in communities, and I seem to lack people to socialize with. This quality of mine comes from the fact that I am an introvert, so I do work best when I have space (and I do like to work in efficient groups). But when you have already taken 7 hours out of my day, I really do not have much time left to socialize. I am struggling to get work done, and a party invite while is wholehearted, is not helpful. The best results of favours that I have received is just to be appreciative and run with it. And if you create imaginations of my needs, I end up giving more to help one to feel moral. This inability for them to help me outside of financial terms put me in a position where I have to resolve their unrest in not repaying me. I end up giving even more when receiving.

To be honest, a giver that cannot be repaid is not a very good giver after all. And because of this corrupted cycle, I am only able to help so many people. And my personal desire of being a giver is not fulfilled as I am not doing my job at the magnitude that I want it to be.

After this ventilating, I am ready to going back to being a giver again. I have been repaid. I have taken the precious time of you as the reader to listen to my troubles, and I would be determined to give better from now on.

(just as a side note, I do take more than I recognize. I take teachers' time, my parents love, and introduce disturbing awkwardness in one-to-one conversations. I am a taker myself)



A practice sketch I did a long time ago. Just for the thumbnail

Missing A Whole Test - Arghhhhhh- 2.4 May FADFSASD (2020-04-27 01:34)

Okay, this is unacceptable. I took a 24-hour test online and missed a whole pdf worth of questions. When I got the test, I saw the note where there are only four possibilities of scores. The scores are given out to the exact fourths of a percentage: only 0, 25, 50, 75, 100. I immediately related it to a four-part question. I opened up the test pdf and saw a four-part question. And somehow, I related that to an immediate one question test. I mean it was a Friday, and online classes mean that I do not have to "go to school" nor zoom meetings. My immediate understanding of how it's one question with four parts made me not scroll down or me aware of the number of pages in the pdf. I ended up doing only one question. The tricks that were involved with the first question made me think that it is worthy of a one-question test on a "non-school day". And in the end, I suffered the consequence of being stupid and got a 20. What the hell. I thought it was a one-question test and went with it for around 3 weeks now, never noticing it. It was when I saw the 20 % grade that I just paused, breathed, and dropped my head onto the hands that are helpless on the table. I have lost all hope for myself and gained tremendous disappointment. I have nothing to say but create the sense that "I hate myself". I am just curious to how did I manage such extraordinary feat.

Kenneth (2020-04-28 03:49:31)
WHAT AN EXPERIENCE!!!

You can also do the rest of the paper and hand to your teacher. even this will not mark as score.

This will show your attribute thru this experience.

Thoughts on "Where the Crawdads Sing" - Delia Owens (2020-05-09 01:18)

In getting back into the habit of reading again, I picked up the book *Where the Crawdads Sing*. Fiction books have the power to help one experience years of living within hours, and this book is definitely one of them. As books are the embodiment of fast-forwarded life experiences, I feel entitled to record my gained understanding and the lessons I learned. And as this book contains a very big twist in the end, I would avoid spoilers as much as possible.

Structured as a semi-detective story, this book is about the narrative of the main character, Kya, dealing with the harshness of life and going through stages of denial. She was given false hope repeatedly from age 5 and throughout her teenage years. She was not gifted with education and is bullied on the first and only day of school. Her development in the book signifies the outcome of hard work and determination. Her dedication to her interest brings her to extraordinary feats, and her analytical mind empowers her to the description of "prowess" chapter 54 (my new favourite word).

One of the themes of the book is survival. It is expanded into sub-categories of achieving fitness, cultural incompetence, and the battle between individuals. In the use of foreshadowing, the scene of conflict tangling with competence is shown repeatedly. There is the survival of the fittest in the wild, the juxtaposition of the rural(competent) and urban, and revenge. The central message that the author is trying to convey is that life is cruel and it is necessary for us to rise up to face troubles. While our urban society hides us from the rule of the wilderness where you get killed when you are not alert, the rule persists with only the consequences reduced to being unsuccessful. In the wilderness before villages and urban cities, everyone is

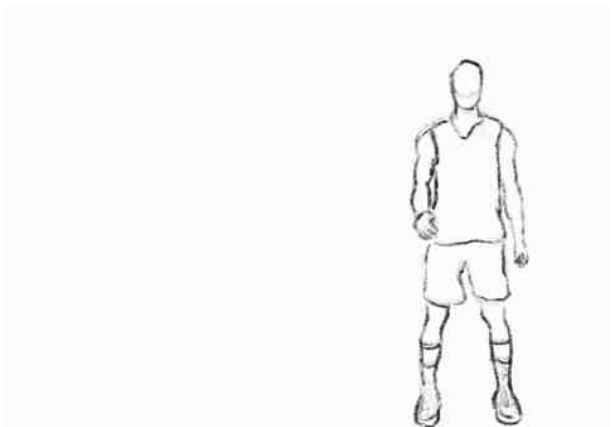
for themselves. It is completely the concept of capitalism where you are in charge of your own success, so when danger comes, there will be no police or unemployment benefits. This book applies this concept to the civilized world and brings out the consequences of incompetency. When being unwareful of our surroundings in our current society, the outcome is that we fall behind in school or work. The penalty of procrastinating which equvalate to not protecting oneself in the wild is being unsuccessful. The dull reality of being unsuccessful as a consequence is tuned down from the death we had before. It indirectly shows how some people in society strive to improve and be "fit" to society, others prevail and fall behind.

rank with easy movement and stance...The prosecutor, on the other hand, relied on wide, bright ties and broad-shouldered suit jackets to enhance his status" start of chapter 51 . The dynamic shift in power between individuals always fascinated me, and it shows the consequence of not developing your skill in the civilized world. While an incompetent individual might still be well-off, he/she will be crushed under in situations. It details the features of the unforgiving wild onto our civilized world. In our current state in the world, we pride for understanding and sympathy for the weak, and it shades us from the Earth's fundamental feature of harshness. We should be reminded that this tolerant world that we live in is built upon us dominating other species, where inferior species become endangered, and then extinct. The narrative of sympathy for the inferior species is lacklustre when compared to the amount set for humans of you and me. The harsh environment once motivated us, and now that it is strived away (for good, for greatness), we should be reminded of it and stay motivated.



An animation I did a while back. I haven't been drawing lately, so I have nothing to post

One of the striking scenes in the book is the comparison made between people within the court and animals in the marsh. She connected the situation in court to animals of different tiers: "Kya saw similarities in (the marsh's and the court's) nature. The judge, obviously the alpha male, was secure in his position, so his posture was imposing, but relaxed and threatened as the territorial boar. Tom Milton, too, exuded confidence and

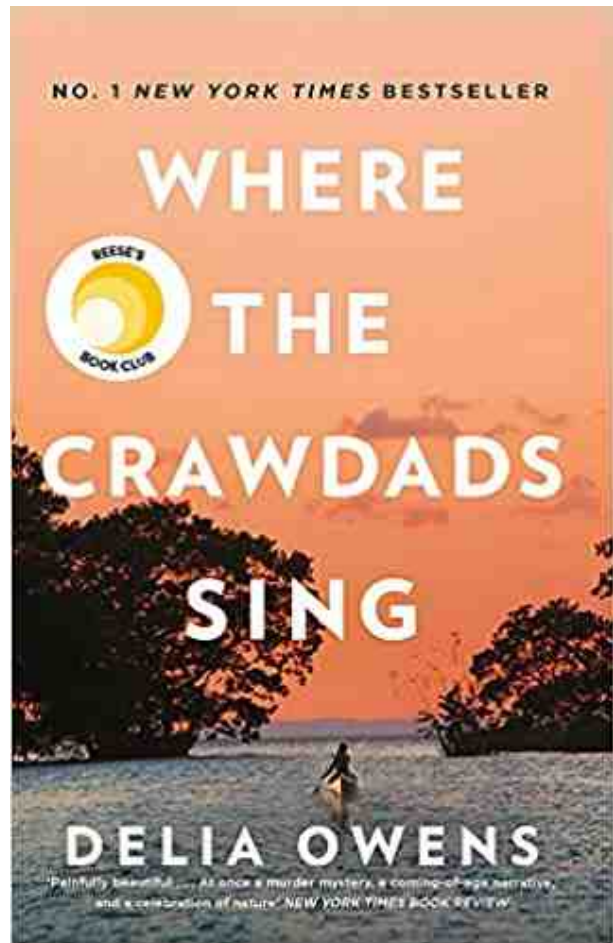


A gif animation referenced from Stephen Curry's method of dribbling into a shot

Setting this book in the single light of power dynamics and survival is unfair because, in

reality, it is much more colourful than that. On top of the theme of survival, there is the motif of love, hope, care, overcoming struggles and much more. It offers a roller-coaster ride of a plot as it narrates the ups and downs in the life of the main character, Kya. The humble beginnings of Kya paint the picture of defeating the impossible, and the ending would surely leave you in awe, disbelief, and immediate understanding. If it is not for the brilliance of the structure of pace within the novel, I would not have cared to enclose the plot as I had not before. It had been an excellent read.

The author of the book, as being a biologist, integrates the life lessons ought to be learnt from biology into our urban culture. Reading it is absorbing the condensed knowledge biology has to offer to daily life. This being her first fiction novel tells the brilliance biology can offer.



P.S: I like how my kindle's battery can hold on for the reading of two whole books, I read:

- The Romantic Manifesto - by Ayn Rand
- Half of a Yellow Sun - by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

And I also like how I finished two books within 20 sittings ;)

And, I also wrote this for 2 hours to 1:22 AM. There goes my sleeping schedule

1. https://images-na.ssl-images-amazon.com/images/I/5199R7yqIYL._SX318_B01,204,203,200_.jpg

speedstor | **0x(2)12192259**
(2020-05-15 03:30)

[1]

speedstor 0x(2)12192259

by Aldrin

Drown in feelings I do not know what to do
Flood with longing I could not keep it at bay
Thought one to one that (it's/that's) the end of my flu
But your glow is never grey
Your cruel brews fuel but soothes
Steps ahead makes your ray
Bracing change and follow suit
Could I be supported by your sane

Lean(ing) on you,
Our future's bright
We can fight for our view and let them cite our highs
Then settle down (to/for) a simple life
Why would you refuse

-transition-

Am I following the motions
Repeating the process again
Am I lost in my attractions
My descriptions of you are vain

I am (shortsighted/inconsiderate) in my vision
Am I bound to make a stain
(Best to keep me frozen)
How (should/do) I respond to this frame
(Before,) I've said this devotion

Lean(ing) on you,
Our future's bright
We can fight for our view and let them cite our highs
Then settle down (to/for) a simple life
Why would you refuse

-

Symmetry along with contrast
You do what I would
You come in with a blast while I'm learning how to cast
We wouldn't bide by loot
Run miles on foot
But you will definitely last

-

Lean(ing) on you,
Our future's bright
We can fight for our view and let them cite our highs
Then settle down (to/for) a simple life
Why would you refuse
Or would you

[1]



k
Long time ago

Batch Reading - Active Improvement (2020-05-18 02:23)

I do not know why, but around March to June of every year, I always get a drive for reading. Three years ago, I got into the habit with the Mortal Instruments series. Two years ago, Ayn Rand's fiction book the Fountainhead got me into her philosophy books. A year ago, Seth Godin's This is Marketing inspired me to go through tens of self-help books. And ultimately, this year, my desire to become better equipped for a "mature" life drove me to go through blog posts, Ted talks, manifestos, programming guidelines, and award-winning fictions. It seems like each of my years is a repeating existential crisis of wanting to achieve more, and somehow, I am gaining understanding each time I go through this process. While most of my other blogs are repeating thoughts in my head that grew irresistible to write about, this one is a one of mystery. I see a pattern of personal growth, and I can't figure the cause of it.

Similar to my chopped up periods of reading, most of my skills, including basketball, coding, gaming, drawing, and almost everything else are improved from chopped up pieces of training. I would do things pertaining to one skill for a month or so, and then drop it for the following month. And every time I return to my skill, I get extensively better at it. In the past, I understand it as an unconscious yet consistent development within my brain, but looking at it now, it seems like the improvement comes from how I am free to revisit the topic with a new perspective each time. I see people stuck in certain phases in life all the time, insisting that they had mastered their speciality when, in reality, they rank low in the mass. It happened to me too, even when I am openly listening to constructive criticism about my coding skills, I insisted that I am a borderline expert at coding. One summer, my Dad openly said that I still got

much too learn, and while I completely agree with the statement, I think I am closer to being a professional than I actually am. I was stuck in a trap of comparing myself to sub-par programmers that I know of from the internet. To my credit, there are a lot of programmers at my level that, with a little bit of luck, are making a perfectly fine living. But what I had mastered was just the tip of the iceberg, and I hadn't take into account all the researchers, specialities and consultants that do not have a youtube channel. My personal experience with how each question of mine is just a 6-minute tutorial away gave me confidence that I can code anything. And while I might be able to code a lot of stuff, the quality lacks in a way that I am not optimizing everything. The solution to the problem is a half-a-year break from coding, and I came back with an understanding of the importance to optimize performance and cleanliness in code. While there are a lot more categories that I am lacking at in coding, in my limited field of vision now, optimization is what I see.

[1]A TED talk that I watched recently very effectively put this phenomenon of the plateauing of skills into words. It outlined that there are two different types of work modes: one being "the performance zone", and another one being "the learning zone". It takes us an effort, whether conscious or not, of reaching over our limits to get better at a skill. This act of reaching is where we learn, and where risks are involved. The problem with modern life is that we are constantly trapped in doing performance task, and being stuck at a skill level, a phase. And tying this back to my chopped up pieces of learning, it relates to that each time I get back to a skill, I am doing something foreign. But this became foreign skill had already its existent in my memory, making my reach of a better attempt in the past. By freeing myself from remembering the exact details of a certain skill, I had to reassemble it all together again, making it an act within the learning zone. According to the talk, the interval nature of my improvement does not have to be spread out. The presenter theorizes that we can go

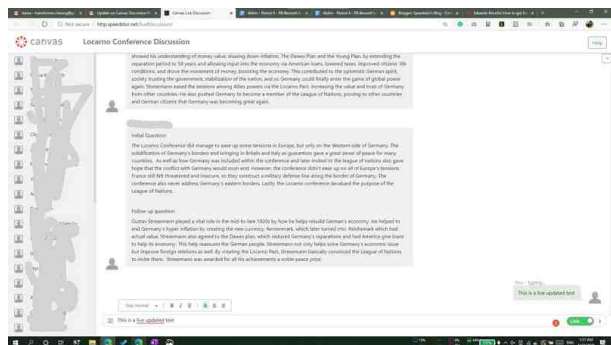
into a learning zone just by actively trying. While I cannot picture myself improving at basketball by analysing my hand gesture as it is more involved with intuition. But at least for things of a more definite nature such as coding, I could start improving without the half-a-year-long breaks.

Adapting to this idea, I had lately started to document my loose thoughts. As I said at the beginning of the blog, my blogs are places where my more sounding thoughts get recorded, but small sparks of inspiration mostly get lost. To actively try to improve my thought process, I added a section called "Thought Bubble" into my digital notebook to jot down incomplete thoughts. While some of the thoughts are thousands of words long and would over an effort of a blog post, it gives me a place to harshly write down speeding thoughts. I just had to thank how my daily schedule now is flexible enough to allow for the disappearance of chunks of hours that service the recording of these thoughts.

Thinking more each day make time flies by. And while I am feeling smarter, I feel more and more cliché, even when writing this exact sentence. I need to stress to myself the importance to maintain my normal life of practical work, and not step into a path of pure philosophy. While I would welcome a cringy thought experiment to take place, it is scary to not produce work. I had, again and again, got defeated by the resistance from producing work. I have to remind myself that an hour-long thinking session cannot be count as a productive action.

I have officially run out of artwork to display. I am ashamed of myself.

But no worries, I will get back to it very soon.



Each of the titles is a cliché in itself

1. https://www.ted.com/talks/eduardo_briceno_how_to_get_better_at_the_things_you_care_about

2.5 June

My Thought Process - Autism - The quirks and pitfalls that comes with it (2020-06-05 00:23)

Time is not a friend of mine, and while writing this blog post might be the last thing I would do today, I would try to write down how I am different from others, and if that statement is even true. Watching a [1]TED talk given by a speaker that is formally diagnosed with autism after college years, her short on-the-side mentioning about her conditions of autism stroke me in a very personal way. She talked about how her thoughts while are not as glorified as what popular belief of autism intelligence is like, is rather a unique language of hieroglyphics of thoughts in her head. She said that she is able to form words out of thoughts without trouble, but it is the combination of that along with other things that confuse her. Her line, "my neurodiversity makes it difficult for me to think, listen, speak and process new information all at the same time" sums it up very effectively and I resonate a lot with it. While I think my blog posts are quite good representations of my thoughts, I am not able to express myself accurately or just gather my thoughts when I am listening to someone. I am not saying that I have autism, but I am exploring the possibilities of it. In life, my method of thinking is what restricts and guides my thought process.

The flow of my thoughts are very dynamic, while I have no idea if it is special among other people, I am curious to see the inner-workings of it. I could never put this phenomenon of my thinking into words, but Hannah Gadsby, the TED talk speaker's, words ring true: "[My thoughts are more like] ever-evolving language of hieroglyphics that I've developed and can understand fluently and think deeply with. but I struggle to translate... and as

for the written word, I'm OK at it but it's a torturous process of translation... Speech has always felt like an inadequate freeze-frame for the life inside of me". All those are true, but it is not a full description of my thoughts, it is a little bit off.

"[My thoughts are more like] ever-evolving language of hieroglyphics that I've developed and can understand fluently and think deeply with. but I struggle to translate"

Most of my conscious thoughts are through written languages, and the most common one in my brain is English. But under the surface of thoughts related to reasoning, my deepest thoughts are an ever-evolving language of indescribable items of feelings. These thoughts are blurry images of my mechanical inventions inside my brain, foggy diagrams of program structure that does not have a label to any parts, imaginative feelings of past or possible future situations. All these visual types of thoughts are not as clear as one would imagine, they are more like a low-resolution transparent hologram that you cannot touch or distinctively see. To put it vaguer, it's there but it's not there. It is so difficult to translate because I myself cannot see it either. It is a concept that exists in my head, but I myself do not grasp.

[2]



I am still out of artwork :(it's fine tho

"and as for the written word, I'm OK at it but it's a torturous process of translation..."

As one can image, it is hard to articulate a concept you yourself do not understand. Yes, I can describe my thoughts as images, diagrams, and imaginative feelings, but each of those word version of my thoughts is written with minute-long pauses in between. It is a "tortuous process of translation" because it takes huge amounts of time to write each sentence. And in a conversation, I do not expect the listener to wait a minute in between my sentences. And even if one would wait that long, the awkwardness surely would interrupt my thought process.

"Speech has always felt like an inadequate freeze-frame for the life inside of me"

Whenever I talk, my brain goes into a numb stage, and it doesn't even take a formal speech to drive me into it. I do not think when I am talking. Time shifts right by like the pressing right on youtube. I do not speed up time but miss it entirely. After a dialogue of my speaking, I would sort of regain consciousness. As articulated by Hannah, it is "an inadequate freeze-frame for the life inside of me". I just freeze in my brain when I speak.

This special thinking of mine drives me to think about how I have been able to succeed, and have struggled in some areas at the same time. If I am allowed to compare myself to the classmates that struggled in computer science, I question if my foggy abstract thoughts have helped me piece together functions and if statements in my "visual" mind. While I myself disagree with that (backed with my own countless time-consuming struggles in computer science), it might have been beneficial for me to not have a clear direct line of thought. Through two years of coding, I have

picked up countless examples of solutions to different types of problems in programming. If I need to access binary, initiate a WebSocket, define a data structure, I have all the experience pertaining to each of those. But the thought process is a subconscious act, and I cannot be sure if it had actually helped or is it other parts of my thinking.

Finishing up the benefits, the counter is that my foggy thoughts definitely hinder my progress in reasoning. In the example of SAT, if my thoughts are labelless objects of content, how would I myself know which summary is the best fit. If my summary of the text is nameless objects, how would I choose the best summary? In the default response, I would have to also translate each of those given summaries into nameless objects as well and compare them with the objects of the text. If it sounds confusing, that is exactly why it is difficult for me. Of course, I am not giving myself an excuse and blaming my low score on my brain. I have countless ways to improve, but it might be one of the reasons why I struggle. I understand that many other people struggle even more, or that others have gone through the hard work of struggling already. Maybe everyone has the same problem with me. But if my thought process is special, it illustrates the challenge. But at the end of the day, practice always makes improvements, and I am definitely not exempting myself from responsibility.

Do I have autism like Hannah? I'm not sure. If my thought process is more special than others, did it help me in the things that I am good at? I'm not sure either. If a conclusion has to be made in this post, I think it is that I have to embrace my method of thinking. Hannah found her solution as doing stand-up comedy. For me, it might be writing, coding, drawing, or some skill that I have yet discovered. One day, when I identify the right medium to translate and articulate my thoughts, I must get hold of it and exploit it to the best of my ability.

1. https://www.ted.com/talks/hannah_gadsby_three_ideas_three_contradictions_or_not?rid=tiCak7c1350m

2. https://1.bp.blogspot.com/-nQuoF05Vh9Y/Xtnv-BJPucI/AAAAAAAAAG4Q/q6BxAqa9n9sKkKGBidMhXnJGkHwu8ZxIQCLcBGA/sYHQ/s1600/ted2019_20190417_1r10791.jpg

Elon Musk - My Admiration is now to The Next Level (2020-06-09 01:49)

"Ah ha ha" in a monotone delivery is this most depressing reaction you can get from Elon Musk. This reaction of his means that he disagrees heavily on you, and it is probably accurate as this evaluation is given by a practicalist founder of multiple companies. In the past, I did not know the extent to which Elon Musk is successful. When you look at the billionaires today, most of them have some common traits. And whether they come from a humble background or not, they are mostly businessmen by trade. They might have a significant hand in the early days and the making of the company, but the multi-billion-dollar company's labour force would not contain them as a member. Elon Musk is multiple of magnitudes different from other CEOs and founders of companies. Studying a dual major of physics and business in college and dropping out mid-way when getting a PhD easily introduces Elon Musk quite accurately. He combines his knowledge about the feasibility of ideas along with business 101, and he is able to do the impossible. I have been hooked on Elon Musk for almost 2 weeks now, and I cannot stop watching his interviews. In my imaginary mind, I thought that I could somehow strike some mystical gem to his successful attitude or knowledge, but the conclusion is still that there are no shortcuts.

What strikes me the most about Elon Musk is how involved he is in his companies. Although I am not as familiar with other CEOs, former or not, such as Steve Jobs, Jeff Besos, Bill Gates, my surface-level assessment of them is that they are about the management, but not as the chief engineer. To my knowledge, I would not classify them as anything of a genius in

their industry's skill. Steve Jobs is a master in envisioning the software possibilities to a solution, Jeff Besos understands the needs of the public, and other founders of companies are idealists that could manage human resources well. But ask them to have a competition in coding with their skilled employees, they would lose by a big margin. Elon Musk on the other hand, in my point of view, understands the public's need, envisions the right future, contains the skill, and has the business knowledge to find funding for his projects. Even Jeff Besos that understands mass economics failed at finding a way to fund his own rocket company, and he was left with funding by himself (almost) entirely. While Mark Zuckerberg, Jack Ma, Robert Kiyosaki, etc. relied on a financial consultant that literally wholly defined their success. Meaning that they would 100 % fail, and I can guarantee, without one person guiding them through the financial market and helping them get funding. Jack Ma stressed that he worked hard, but in reality, he was successful because he can talk and luckily has a very competent financial advisor. Yes, these visionaries' initial efforts attract competent financial advisors in the first place, but it does not change the fact that they are reliant upon them. Rolling back to Elon Musk, he himself is the financial advisor. And of course, collective knowledge is better than a dictator, and so he has advisors himself. But the major difference is that he is able to devise a competent plan by himself. His description 7 years ago of PayPal that he co-founded really just illustrates this clearly. He said, "If you look at [paypal's] product plan I wrote in 2000, there's hardly any difference, in fact, it's slightly worse than that." While this alone does not justify his acquisition of business knowledge, with some estimates and predictions, you can tell that he knows his stuff. While other founders and CEOs just gather the right people, Elon Musk is part of the talent, and he is open to assistance.

[1]



Leave me alone, I will draw
when I draw, thank you

Elon Musk knows how to run a business, duh, he founded, co-founded, 6 very successful companies out of 6 attempts, a 100 % success rate, and he is not in it for the money either. The part that makes him overwhelmingly great is his involvement in the making of the products. While wealthy people (Manny Khoshbin, Robert Kiyosaki) work 2 hours a day, scrolling through amazon for lands and houses, Elon Musk is being the chief engineer for SpaceX rockets, dealing with problems that scientists have a hard time with and taking them upon himself to solve it. While Steve Jobs criticizes the work of his employees, judging them against the idealistic possibility 1, Elon Musk takes the idealistic possibility 2 and does it himself along with his employees. He does not do this because he doesn't have the resource to hire a talented engineer, scientist, his budget is literally multiple billions, he can afford anyone. He leads the team and solves the problem himself as a self-taught engineer because no one else can. No one dares to dream nor knows how to conceptualize rockets' reusability. He knows his product in-and-out and would do the crazy, such as manufacturing AI chips in-house in his Gigafactory. He understands everything there is to the modern way world of economics and innovation. In the [2]investor conference for Tesla a year ago, his attitude when compared with the chief engineer for the AI chip

says a lot. While Elon Musk understands the importance of satisfied investors, answers questions dedicatedly, the chief engineer dismisses the absurd uneducated questions of tech-lame people with one-liners, thinking that "these questions are not worthwhile, my stats explains it quite simply". Elon Musk learns anything, meaning anything, needed that are needed to overcome his obstacles, and he strives to better humanity.

A couple of months ago, I admired Meursault's ability to be in a higher plane of existence, being aware of his surroundings and uncaring towards the wounds inflicted by others. I alluded to that the role models that I have and the ideal person that I want to be are all fictional. While I had always admire Bill Gates, I cannot relate to his desire to end human suffering. I had not gone through the trauma that puts me in that position, and that is entirely on me. But now, I see Elon Musk's action to the cause. He both provide solutions to the problems of Earth such as greenhouse gas and human congestion and provide solutions to problems of humanity such as making human multi-planetary. He did all this by learning everything necessary to get money and make stuff. He knows rocket science, he knows the silicon valley, he knows public desires. He empowers himself for his goals by learning things one by one, and this is reflected in his conclusion that human learns very slow. He, by experiencing the need to learn all these stuff, have a personal understanding of the process of learning. Although he did drop out of college, his assessment of learning makes it evident that he had learned a lot. In his interviews, he still illustrates the importance of education, and that in today's world, while college is not perfect, it is necessary unless there is a better conventionalized way.

While getting to where Elon Musk is now for me is to just keep learning as he did, I think I will end this post with some of Elon Musk's quotes. I don't know why the quality ones all escape my head at the moment, but I still remember the ones that are aside his jokes,

so here goes:

"Try to learn as much as possible that allows you to predict the future or make the future. The best saying is that the best way to predict the future is to make it. And then assess what you are learning is enabling you to predict the future with less error or be less wrong. We are always wrong to some degree. But you can reduce the error on your future predictions"

"Well, I do think there's a good framework for thinking. It is physics. You know, the sort of first principles reasoning. Generally I think there are - what I mean by that is, boil things down to their fundamental truths and reason up from there, as opposed to reasoning by analogy. Through most of our life, we get through life by reasoning by analogy, which essentially means copying what other people do with slight variations. And you have to do that. Otherwise, mentally, you wouldn't be able to get through the day. But when you want to do something new, you have to apply the physics approach. Physics is really figuring out how to discover new things that are counterintuitive, like quantum mechanics. It's really counterintuitive. So I think that's an important thing to do, and then also to really pay attention to negative feedback, and solicit it, particularly from friends."

" People worry a lot about these days are the people that called college-smartness. People like us street smart, we are never scared of that... I do not know man, it sounds like famous last words"

envisions the idealistic possibilities for Apple and Pixar

2: reusable rocket, electric car, mass solar arrays, hyperloop. Elon Musk is directly involved in making the idealistic possibilities into reality

1. <https://1.bp.blogspot.com/-SH2X6bzXrV4/Xt9IFSktVT6I/AAAAAAAAAG5I/qg8YqYmoezQZzKkuPvmUFAL3uhei4yRpgCLcBGA/sYHQ/s1600/960x0.jpg>
2. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-b041NXGPZ8>

Kenneth (2020-06-16 23:43:24)

In my time, this is Bill Gate and Steve Jobs. ^ _ ^

Mental Blocks vs Bursts of Ambition (2020-06-26 23:32)

3 weeks into my summer vacation, I have faced an issue. While the number of duties that I have has decreased, I seem to be more frustrated about the work at hand. Be it academic writing, coding or even my stress relieve, drawing. In times of tight schedules, creative ideas of possible programs or contraptions spring into place, and I am often left wishing for some free time to pursue them. But when this kind of free time finally came around the corner, I no longer want to do what I wanted. I tend to drift off to an option of least resistance. In my mind, this is the situation in *The Tell-Tale Heart* with the phrase "be careful of what you wish for". You might lose your ambition when free time is accessible. While this situation might seem ironic, ironically, this happens to me all the time. I would die to work on projects when I do not have time but be frustrated with the project just a week into it. I still remember my wish to become a full-time self-employed engineer during the school year, but now, I cannot even finish one project.

What happened today was mostly depressing. After finally finishing the two programs with higher priority, I was set to do college preparation today. I woke up at 6 in the morning only having 5 hours of sleep, and I carried off to follow my carefully thought-out plan from the day before, and that is to write a

Footnotes:

1: iPad, iMac, iPhone, IOS, Pixar. Steve Jobs

few test college applications and research a dozen or so colleges. Mind you now, I also had taken a whole day off yesterday, spending time doing easy tasks such as cleaning my room and sketching. But what I wanted to do did not match what I did do, and I end up spending the whole day using basketball and youtube to procrastinate my time away. I accomplished nothing in the end. There is this strong opposing urge for me to write anything important even when the stakes are clean and it being only a mock. I have no understanding of why I behaved such way. My writing while not the best, had been polished a lot through all the blog posts I have written and proof-read. My earlier habit of reading from the start of the month definitely helped too, but I just did not want to write today. Burnouts aren't an explanation as I am well familiar with it and had taken a whole day off to prevent it. And as I had mentioned, it was also not about me being an idealist as the stakes were low. Except for youtube, there were no distractions, and I can personally say that the friction to start working would be enough to influence me to stare at a wall gladly instead of typing. This pattern of resistance does not make logical sense as it does not tie to factors of mindset, environment and stress. To make the matter worse, this opposing urge to work is not only on college applications, but rises when I am programming as well. The first two days of coding any program are always splendid, but the third day is where the frustration of working on the same task sinks in. For me, this also applies to video games. Anything that is attached with a goal, and where you are grinding indefinitely to achieve the goal annoys me, and I do not understand the reason. I love coding. I love writing. In a way, I even love grinding. Why on earth would I not want to do it?



I finally drew something.
Don't mind his right eye, this is a ROUGH ROUGH draft.

Two years ago, I discovered self-help books, and it had taught me immensely about how to set goals and manage my time. It engraved a relatively efficient mindset into my brain. But after following its rules of "Just do it", "Ship it", "Start with just 5 minutes", "Write bad", and countless others, I now seem to be less affected by them. It is like my anti-bodies had adapted to all the medication I have took, and efficiency is slipping through my hands. "Just do it" does not work, as I am doing it. I am staring at the screen and thinking about the next possible steps, but I am not typing. "Ship it", similarly, does not work either, as I am already aiming low and coding the bare minimum. "Start with just 5 minutes" does not work because I am already into it for half an hour. "Write bad"..... go look at my code [facepalm].

I wrote this blog trying to find the cause of my behaviour, but 750 words into it, and I still do not seem to get the problem.

To take a blind guess... (I sat here for 5 minutes, and I cannot come up with anything). I can only say that it is how the human mind works. With all the complex system of dopamine realises, motivation, and hormones that affect one's mood, it is another war that

wages on an individual, and it is a certain phase of efficiency that I have to fight through. While blaming my mistakes on the biology of the human brain is lame, I cannot come up with anything I could do except "Just Just Do Do IT". Although all this is a definition of a first-world problem, I still think I am entitled to say, "When life throw you lemons, make lemonade", as cliché as it might sound. (My Calculus teacher's favourite word) Greatness, is for the people who work for it.

consciousness is their access to language. We are able to voice our consciousness into words and verbal thoughts. Animals while proven to have all the tools to memory, sight, and some, even imagination, do not have language and could not articulate and systematically expand upon their existing thoughts. In result, they only rely on abstract thoughts¹ of things that may be pictures or other things. Lastly, computer consciousness does not even have this abstract thought, and they operate on the basis of 1s and 0s, similar to an unorganized group of neurons.

2.6 July

Recursion Performed in Neurons - AI (2020-07-12 17:18)

It is Sunday, and I lost my urge to work again. I think the very fact that I know today is a Sunday made that happen. But nevertheless, this could give me an opportunity to refine a thought I have since 2 or 3 years ago. And don't mind the title, as I am just trying to criticize the running joke about people on the internet using big words to assume their authority; there is an unhealthy amount of fake mediocre gurus on the internet that flash terms and sell courses. I digress, the thought that had been following me had been the psychology and the workings of the human brain. Consciousness as I see it is anything that makes decisions out of order. In human, that order is the strict rules of our neurons. In other animals (in this post will be abbreviated to just *animals*), it is a smaller network of similar neurons. And in a computer, it is the combination of transistors and resistors that creates patterns from rhythm.

The Absence of Language

The distinction between the decisions made by human consciousness and animal

We are not too different from computers:

1. We have our transistors in the form of neurons
2. We have motherboards, ram, power supply, a whole computer in the form of our brain
3. We have programs in the form of the pre-existing algorithms in our brain that help us understand sight (into outlines of objects), filter different frequencies of sound-waves (to hear dialogues in a noisy room) and much more
4. Lastly, we also have an internal clock in the form of the Cereblum to maintain our heartbeat and breathing.

Our brain is a computer that is built from pure trial and error through evolution and the rule of "survival of the fittest". Computers just lack the language and efficient algorithms for sight and movement.

Necessary Algorithms

Aside from integrating sight, touch, hearing, smell, taste together in the frontal lobe of the brain, (hypothesis) our brain has algorithms that simplify data before it reaches the "consciousness". We see outlines of objects and shadows, not light rays of different frequencies. I say there is a "pre-wired" algorithms written in neurons that parse light

rays into outlines that could be understood by our brain. The list of algorithms that I have thought of are as below:

- Vision
- Outlining algorithm
- (imaginative) 3d system (turn outline into objects in 3D, similar to Tesla auto-pilot (without predefined 3D models)

Movement

- Balance - sensing the muscle used to hold the body upright and figure out the relative gravity

Hearing

- Distinctly separate different sound waves into voices, music, hums, etc.

Storage

- Algorithm of short-term memory to long-term [things in long-term are naturally deemed more useful as its repeated] -> maybe just as the type of storage used, similar to ram, and is not an algorithm

?

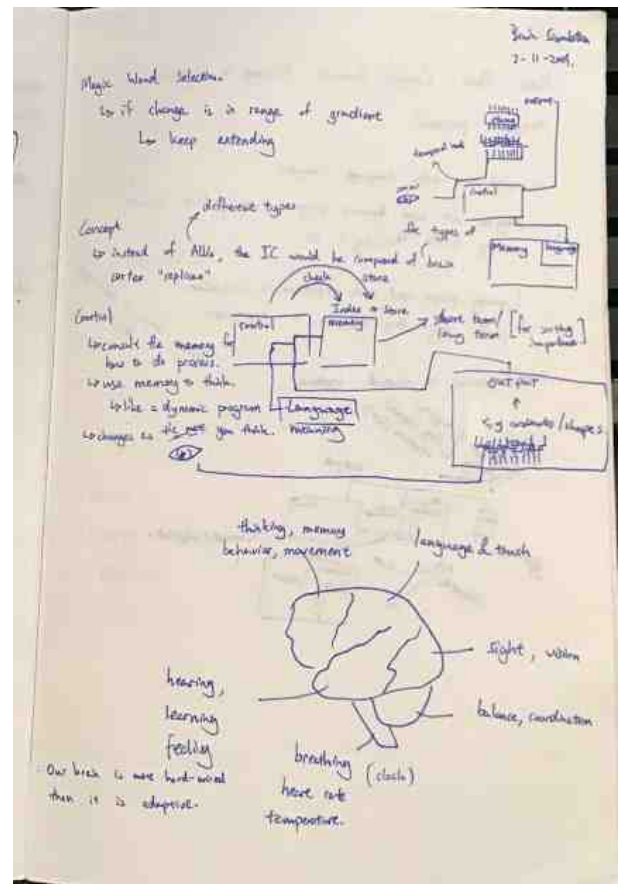
- Smell
- Touch
- taste

In the current state of AI, we mostly have a premature state for each one of the algorithms. The problem is that it does not have a generalized output, and one algorithm cannot communicate with others. Not to mention that each one of the algorithm is not polished

yet. While AI can differentiate between objects, their input is of bits, and it is almost impossible for us to manipulate the neural net to our will.

The solution I prematurely suggest is to write the algorithm using Math ourselves. Not only will it allow us to manipulate it to our heart's content, but we could also tweak it to maybe "ensure" the power level of the AI. These kinds of algorithms are easy to conceptualize but difficult to "create". And I am not encouraging the development of it, but only illustrating its need in making a "conscious" (to the human level) system.

[1]



These notes are from last year, so if you are going to nitpick

I am just going to say these are not my full thoughts now.

Plus, this is just part of the story anyway.

Significance

My own purpose in attempting to understand the brain is to create a structure for computers to process data. Yes, it is very far-fetched and definitely out of my league, but what is the harm in trying. While it is a guaranteed failure, this thought process had been going on for years, and there is no reason to stop it now.

After knowing that I want to understand the brain to build J.A.R.V.I.S, the consequential question is why. My imperfect argument is as follows, correct me if I am wrong. To the trend of global education, there is a pattern of selective teaching, where the people with a head start is given proprietary treatment as schools want bulletin examples. This is building up towards a generation with a very distinct gap. I put it roughly, a youtube (shows how discredited I am) video illustrates "education now is about no one left behind. But just a minute ago you were talking about giving kids a head start. Head start, left behind. Head start left behind. Someone is losing _____ ground here." As annoyingly biased viewpoint it illustrates, it is true to a certain degree. While everyone is provided with education nowadays, the favouritism of the students with a head start creates a huge gap between groups. (I'm going to skip to the point, I want to write about the brain and not why AI is needed). An AI can fill in jobs that are undesirable. The missing ingredient to communism is that people would not to work, and with AI, people won't need to work. And if Ultron is created, then is that not just evolution.

^^ There is an incentive for the government to dumb people down, to continue producing the people needed for the cycle of buyers and sellers. If people in the United States decide to save money, the debt of large companies and a line of many other things would fall. The debt, and the structure of business consisting of pure design strived upon the

buyers with "BS jobs" (that do nothing but earn and spend to keep the cycle going).

Other arguments would be comparing it similar to a nuke. If a nuke is feasibly possible, then we would probably want to unravel it and demand for regulation before any one evil entity gets to it first.

Another argument is that when we do hit a roadblock in the struggle of our existence (In movies, that would be figuring a way to become multi-planetary), a AI that is multiples of magnitudes better than humans would become useful.

Conclusion

I have many thoughts, hypothesis and attempts that I had not shared. But I have been writing this post for 2 hours now, and I would stop this post here as I am getting tired. Because of the size of this goal, this conception would fill out my boring times indefinitely. It is the ingredient that allows me to sit in a chair silently alone for hours without end. Avoiding boredom had not been easier.

Other notes:

It had occurred to me that I had not alluded to the title any bit. The title of this post is illustrating how we imagine scenarios from memory. My hypothesis is that the inputs to our vision not only includes our eyesight but our memory and logic (frontal lobe) as well. We take the memory of the inputs required for a certain image, and process that back into the input of our visual cortex, otherwise known as the occipital lobe. This occipital lobe would then transfer the output back into the frontal lobe to process the image and make it look real.

There is a possibility that it skips the occipital lobe all together and wire the output from the frontal lobe right back into it, but this is my hypothesis.

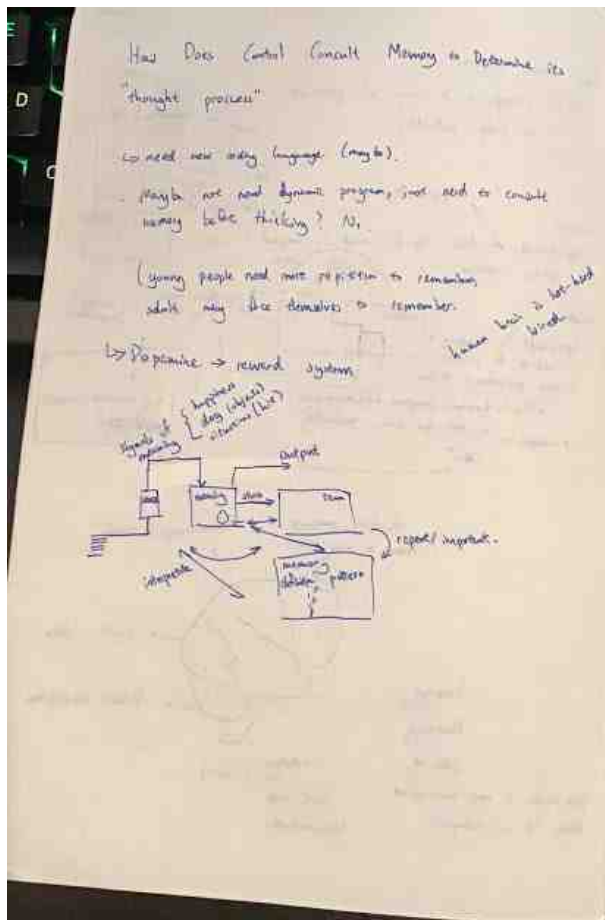
Other Parts of the brain:

- "clock"
- Breathing
- Heartbeat
- Reflexive response

Thesis:

- The human brain while are composed of a network of neurons like a neural net, has "hot wired" aspects that are evolved from evolution
- Our brain is more hard-wired then it is adaptive

[2]



Same thing, this is from last year

Footnotes

PS: The reason that I am using headings in this post is that this idea is too messy in my head, and I can't articulate it easily.

PS: My eyes are dying from staring at the screen to much. This problem always takes my breath from me.

1: The abstract thoughts in animals are hard to explain. I would describe these abstract thoughts in humans as the knowledge that do not have explanation, as we ourselves had not evolved a language for it yet. Some examples of this include, the knowledge of riding a bike, touch-typing, shooting a basketball consistently, a photographic memory, etc. All these knowledge cannot be explained and articulate from one individual to another, as our existing language would not allow us to describe our *muscle memory* (it might not be muscle memory, this is only one way to see it).

All of these are of speculation, and one could argue that there is nothing that would be able to articulate the knowledge of touch-typing. But it is also true that it's difficult to imagine the unknown. (it is like how a person from a 2D world can't understand 3D. And we ourselves in the 3D world cannot imagine what exactly is 4D).

1. https://1.bp.blogspot.com/-QsTkEVecnf0/XwunHVsdnFI/AAAAAAAAAHAc/_pjxoc1cVIQSCHP_cd-qaREsqiXGYMmOgCLcBGA/sYHQ/s2048/IMG_1257.jpg
2. https://1.bp.blogspot.com/-sulzCrWewSA/Xwunr-tF80I/AAAAAAAAAHak/oXU1E3deyJk8ikxfcotKJmQnCl7cxyP5wCLcBGA/sYHQ/s2048/IMG_1258.jpg

Kenneth (2020-07-16 18:51:34)
WoW, you are evolving, from Aldrin 1.0 to Aldrin 2.0.

Speedstor (2020-07-17 22:44:51)
Thank you!!

SSdtIGRIc3BlcmF0ZSwgYWNjZXB0IG1I
SSdtIHN0dXBpZCwgSSBhZ3JlZQ
YnV0IGlzbid0IGl0IHBhcnQgb2YgaXQ

Waves and Instability (Aspiration)
(2020-07-31 00:54)

SGVyZSBjIGFtIGFnYWluLA
c3R1Y2sgaW4gdGhIIH-
NhbWUgcGxhY2UsIGZyaWVuZA
TG9zdCBhcyBJIGFsd2F5cyBhbQ
cmVhbGl6aW5nIGFsbCB5b3UndmUgbGVudA
anVzdCBmb3IgbWUgdG8gYmUgaGVyZSBsYXRRI
bWV-
hbndoaWxIIgxb2tpbmcgdGhIIg90aGVyIHdheQ

cnVtb3VycyBJIGhhdmUgc3B1bg
Y3JlZGliaWxpdHksIEkgaGF2ZSBub25l
QnV0IHBsZWZfZQ
c2F2ZSBtZSBhIHNwb3QsIGZvciBh-
bGwgdGhhdBjJ3ZlIHN1bmc

c2lnbnMgSSBzYXcgeW91IGhpbmQ
eWV0IEkge3RpbGwgdG9vayBhIGJpdA
ZGlzdHJhY3RlZCwgSSdtIGF0ZnJlYWs
c3BsaXRlZCwgSSdtIHN0aWxsiGI0
YnV0IGZlZWxpbmdzIHRha2VzIGF0ZmI0
ZXhjdXNlcywgSSBhZG1pdA



Zm9yZ2l2ZSBtZSwgd291bGQgeW91IHBsZWZfZQ
Q

T3IgyW0gSSByZWZsbHkganVzdCBhIGZyZWFr

bG9zaW5nIHlvdSwgaXQgY2FuJ3QgYmUg
c3BIZWQgaXQgdXAsIHdvdWxkIEkgeGxIYXNI
d2hhdCdZlGxpZmUgd2l0aG91dCBhIGtleQ

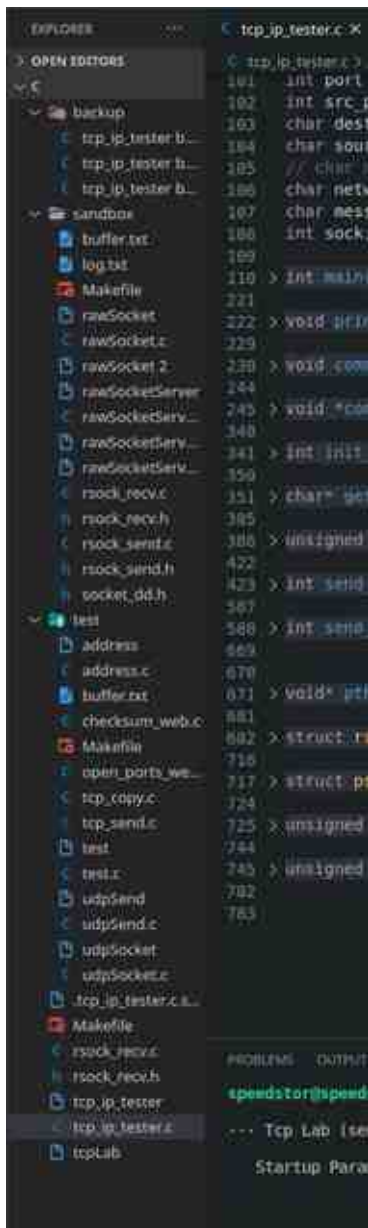
Yep, no hints. But don't go try cracking it, it would be too easy. Just let it exist on the internet without harm.

If you do waste your time to crack it, then you leave me no choice but to spend some of my time to up my game.

2.7 August

Arghhhhhh (2020-08-10 00:02)

[1]



so loooooonnnnggggg

as cliché as it seems for the snap
the moment of realization doesn't fall flat
you hinted and hid your intention
like-a' guiding angel aware of her cognition
through the last year

you've truly filled my evocation
that time you've kept up

I thought you challenged
that time you've offered

I thought you blended
that time you greeted

I thought you concurred
that time you indirected

I thought you joked
that time you stared

I realized

that time I stared

you responded

yet, now, I doubt myself
my appearance is misleading

smart, I just do the oddity
mindful, I'm just a bit quiet

polite, I'm anti-social

unloyal, that is a truth

trust me, I'm as worse as it can get
still here?

I'm as desperate as a dying man

I'm sure you understand

aes256|ex_istentialm

1. <https://1.bp.blogspot.com/-BargA21CIIsE/XzDwx0NZL-I/AAAAAAAAAHKQ/8gMT0GIwNJs89WjTxbWl3m5qwI7hyinQCLcBGA/sYHQ/s1065/Screenshot%2B2020-08-09%2B235908.jpg>

2.8 September

All I can tell you is that it's a poem

Luxurious Fuel (2020-09-05 23:06)

(At least I make the puzzle easy)

aes128|||PxZ/n9DDP+VyFB4g+eWg4VOpkfb5Uum-
 D2WqgIHARKwRkRY3Y7LRWL4aZ3N7iB9r0HZjm
 WlOn6uyKtp/RKPhi0cWPMjR4ser7k8Tapj95mLfFRbsSE-
 4UbIF2Y4VVlcN62d9fxVwvScrEYsco
 AV6A69PFRb5MQKY7qpzgYX9UrL1XwVb2gOI9vkljysE3jgnrr-
 5GApavVd1W/fiVT/ZzVb5Jl
 RQAnojc9OYwo78uX4k-
 6KGr5M44L8yOEQ4kSnhSvIQvNpXDDyhmxZqZZEgjl-
 C/frX22/p4GRT2IT7LPg1sQ1CviwU439QZJkwVKSJollet
 8gNmBfSMwITyCrAlVaRx/kSjzclG1z3JU9zeEkawYproje
 eKpWGjKNF8/t+KYGx66K6JY4v8kTyM81KrMijMQgphrogram
 DmRblvMPvxH3U9XraYPUU3YtRzcfeskhXWmess. In addition to the new environment
 blLvn4F67ksrnl8XM1w0AsoDm3w4hLpg76XQ+QibhfrRysE-oriented programming in contrast
 JjcSLHvpA0r9idAlelJodTSYYrTto the familiar object and functional program-
 3/stm0KUTXwz0z5P3y+k2leCckYaMEWebXLhvCfzjgwEas3Omx7-the language and am no
 JzKZnyFhQqDnwwuteSgrmore than a blind man set in a new place. I
 TzaM+K0GoCDhDpfrA/Drl- had no idea how to structure my C program to
 DqhFCLt3JYJhbOVQcsWy8sjUJah0GBB20eHyslwdre modular, and now, my program is too big to
 7XFPk91J1zG0P74iUt11EYB8BWEbiBb85Z7nukvbe changed. I can only endure my way through
 HTXDc31+T4c9DdJ6+FMydW6KXWib16mxUWulvBkFt over, and I would more leaning towards
 /jlvHb7Yn+JeOwBz1mi3n4P11+fvFcezi67RU6kbbhe former. WELP. I had an idea for a blog tit-
 hELsrIbOAIrimxXBNdDS5HEWhJeYWKSf6Ztled "Follow your Heart: the ups and downs".
 TulyHID804xrLXB8MoKXs/qcHDasHLc2eogDz8hCkewCawAto get back to work, ahh.
 yvV0MB1oODEh4OlhpF4kgGzdkxz
 JuTi06E2W6sLj7/V+aOjN20OewExUN0JHInVWwd+6hajkXRQxki70Tj-
 4QP6NuYKwX/BuqYWtFVN
 iOfFYokD4N3TuAZb8+lwF-
 eBGn/mhg==|||speedstor

Pulse Check (2020-09-14 19:52)

A program too big without structure. I am cur-
 rently programming a tcp packet builder to
 collect data about its efficiency. While the
 project is easy in itself, I haven't exercise good
 programming etiquette, and everything is a
 mess. In addition to the new environment
 oriented programming in contrast
 to the familiar object and functional program-
 the language and am no
 more than a blind man set in a new place. I
 had no idea how to structure my C program to
 be modular, and now, my program is too big to
 be changed. I can only endure my way through
 over, and I would more leaning towards
 the former. WELP. I had an idea for a blog tit-
 led "Follow your Heart: the ups and downs".
 to get back to work, ahh.

Attention to Detail vs. Shortcuts (2020-09-18 00:42)

Through my attempts at "enlightenment" and
 trying to understand the world, I came to an
 insight where because objects of our creation
 are only the combination of smaller objects,
 the hard-work could be saved when one un-
 derstands the essentials of the desired prod-
 uct. An essay could be hashed out without at-
 tention to detail if the right words are used.
 There are only so many ways to convey an
 idea and only so many words you could use.
 Describing a character's emotion differs little
 in conditions of varying detail: "His heart tin-
 kles" and "He felt something special" have lit-
 tle change, and I thought I could cheat the sys-
 tem by just consciously assuming the desired
 output. While you could come to the quality of



I'm sorry about the annoying walls I set up within my blog

the first one by actually paying attention and deliberately trying, you could also arrive to it just by strategically using it, skipping the effort (it is just words at the end of the day). Attention to detail takes time and effort, while my fantasized method takes less, saving time for my coding, drawing, etc. But this theory of mine is false, and it took me 2 months to realize.

Evidence

Only if I knew. Skipping the effort is not a possible reality, at least for me. The last 3 scores entered into my grade book proves so.

Just the passing Wednesday, I took a math test on course material I already learned 2 years ago, and I skipped the efforts of reviewing as I was confident in my abilities. But it is my lack of heart and attention that led to careless mistakes as a result. During the test, I was aware of my lack of review, so I quadruple checked (not exaggerating) my answers upon submission. My answers turned out to be perfect, but I skipped over the conventions that the teacher wanted. This is arguably unavoidable without heart and attention put into the subject class. My hypothesis of effectively skipping the effort was rejected. But I persisted, I thought it was the teacher's fault of not announcing and explaining his intentions beforehand.

But examples of the failure in my shortcuts keep resurfacing. A similar thing happened when I took a test in Biology. I was once again confident in my abilities as I understood the core concepts of the chapter quite well in my own assessment. I romanticized my ability to translate my understanding into words. As a result, I did badly on the test. Even with hindsight, I would argue that I understood everything on the test perfectly, but it is once again my unfamiliarity with the conventions and words that made my downfall. My shortcut was to purely use my understanding to deal with the test, and it failed in response to my lack of attention to detail. I skipped over essential parts and vocabs that, with effort, I would not have otherwise.

The final nail in the coffin is the submission

of my English homework. This relates to the example I gave in the introduction, where my words reflected the lack of heart and effort in my answers. I thought with all the blog posts I have written and all the constantly debating inner-dialogues within my head, my literacy would excel. But at the end of the day, it still comes true again that my lack of attention resulted in grammar mistakes and misused words.

Conclusion

My belief in shortcuts comes from how professionals could churn out masterpieces with little effort. I thought the magical brilliance I somehow displayed last year was an indication that I have achieved a level that I am not in. My "brilliance" was the product of my hard work and not because of some genius attribute of mine. I fell down into this rabbit hole of using confidence to mask my shortcomings, and it had finally hit rock bottom. Things are always better late than never, and this concludes the enjoyment of the time I "saved" for the last 2 months. I have to go back to my last year's self (effort-wise) and do my due diligence. And might I add that from my experience of last year, it truly feels like torture 1 to work with that much effort. The only thing merry about it was the looking back of the products of my efforts, and I guess I have no choice but to go back into that state. While Elon Musk's efforts trump mine by light-years, he said, "I do not regret not enjoying my life (for the things [I] achieved)", and I have to follow his lead and do the things necessary.

If time could not be cheated out of existing agendas, the only way out is to occupy more of my free time, as much of a torture 1 it is. The future always awaits us, and our decisions set anchors into the past. My fantasy of being unworldly efficient in my work has to come to an end, and whether I am able to resume my constant streams of effort leaves unanswered in the future.

[1]

1. 2020

1.1 November

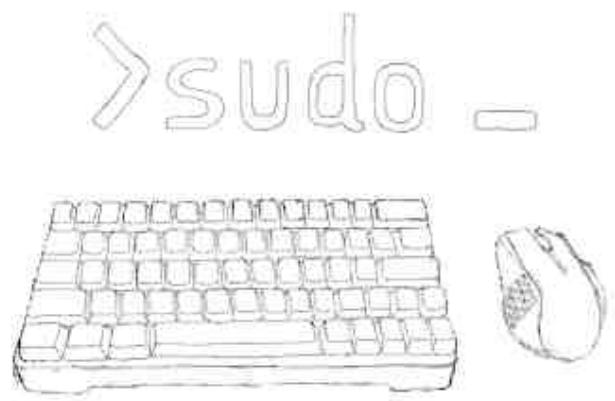
Sleep! (2020-11-07 16:25)

I want to write like Joan Didion and write each sentence with intent, but I still remembered how much friction it puts on writing and my past learning of "write bad". This desire might be stored in the back of my subconscious, but I doubt my ability to address this desire of mine anytime soon. Over the last 2 weeks, I have noticed my inefficiency in daily work. While I had just noticed it now, it is more so of a continuing phenomenon since July, since the second half of my summer vacation. The only correlation I can draw to my inefficiency is my lack of sleep. Because of my madman attitude on finishing projects despite the friction during summer, I had imposed a lot of arbitrary deadlines that although are perfectly feasible, disregarded my well-being and relaxation. Throughout the past 3 months, sleep had been the missing piece of the formula to being able that I overlooked as the effects took time to settle in.

Intentional sleep is a weird term, and I use it to describe sleep that you allowed yourself to have. For me, intentional sleep had become a luxury since my developed loathe for sleep. During the summer vacation, I prevent myself from falling asleep for as long as possible, and most of my sleep is unintentional, and they start with me not being able to hold on to consciousness. Whenever I drift off to sleep and unintentionally slept, I would feel bad as it was replacing my original schedule of finishing a part of a program. To me at the time, sleep was an obstacle and presents itself as a time-wasting activity. Since then, being able to lie in bed and await sleep to overtake consciousness is the most satisfying thing on Earth. Insomnia to others is an annoyance, but to me is a luxury. When I have a hard time going to sleep, I get to stare into my pitch-black room, empty my mind, do nothing, and just enter into

"Slowtown".

[1]



A picture for my website that I didn't have time to color in

Quality sleep is another thing I overlooked. Overwhelmed with my ambitious goals that hinder my ability more than it motivates, during the summer, I so often sleep by the numbers: "I haven't slept a single second last night, so I just need 6 hours today", "It takes 11 days of bad sleep to hallucinate, and I have slept 3 hours avg. for the last 4 days, I can still fight for one more night before having an 8-hour sleep day". It all becomes worse when I account for how most of my sleep is with the lights on as I hadn't intended for it (When I sleep with the lights on, I wake up feeling as tired as I was before) . There is such a chaotic cycle that I subscribed to, and honestly, apart from tiredness, I was not suffering any consequences for the first month.

Sleep deprivation had been an old friend of mine since childhood, and I have been accus-

tomed and adapted to it. When I was around 10, the game addict in me drove me to keep myself awake till one o'clock at night to bypass my parent's ban from computers. When I went to Shanghai, my dedication to turn in homework I deemed worthy of submission drove me to work till 2 past midnight regularly. Stretching my limits, it had become a game for me to not mention my 0-sleep night the next day despite my hallucinating inside. And even after consecutive sleepless nights, I functioned normally on the outside and in regards to my outputs. But now, my habit of trying to detach myself from reality broke the bottom line.

Being well accustomed to sleep deprivation, I always understood its most significant effect of decreased efficiency. I am aware of that infamous inability to focus on a task 1, but I had always been able to justify it. On any particular day, getting 8 more hours than normal is a 50% increase in time available, and tiredness (inability to focus) only takes away 10-20%. In past situations, the worst net total is still a 20% increase, and I naturally took the trade. For the past 3 months, what I have not accounted for is the accumulation of being tired. From what I have experienced, it seems to me that tiredness cannot be rid of just because I had taken 3 days to become sleeping beauty. I knew this in the past, but I had only understood that it is not a 1:1 amending process when trying to catch up on sleep. But not only is catching up on sleep not with a direct ratio, it is only a "pain-reliever" in that it only fixes tiredness in the short-term.

Since last summer, I have been spending more time on tasks, but ironically, have been getting less done. I was stretching my limits too much. I was doing less and less while also having less and less sleep. As tasks pile on and their significance increase, my ability to receive them gradually and chaotically decreases. Leveraging sleep throughout my life had been a godsend, and it is integral to my current personality and what I have achieved. The extra time I have gained had helped me combat my late start in academics, expanded my interest 2, and made me diverse in my skillset 3. But leveraging on it too much 4 had proven to be

extremely detrimental to my ability, and the math that had always justified sleep deprivation becomes non-applicable in extreme conditions.

While I haven't connected this issue to my past blog posts here, everything I have been experiencing is becoming more and more interconnected. It overwhelms me as the cause and effect of every little detail becomes more and more apparent. Lately, I am strung to lyrics by Tyler Joseph (, relating to them with extremely altered meanings):

I don't know why I just feel I'm better off
Stayin' in the same room I was born in
I look outside and see a whole world better off
Without me in it tryin' to transform it

Oh he is falling
And though he knows it's not
The world looks down and frowns.
Get up Johnny boy, get up Johnny boy

Hey, hey, wouldn't it be great, great,
If we could just lay down and wake up in Slowtown,
I can't take them on my own, my own
Oh, I'm not the one you know, you know
I have killed a man and all I know
Is I am on the run and go

1: When you are sleep deprived, it is super super easy to find yourself on useless things, for me it's youtube. Because of my constant tiredness, youtube and relaxation seeps in during the daytime, and nighttime was able to impose enough tension and limitation for me to do efficient work. And because of this attribute for nighttimes, I fell in love with doing work at night, sometimes even trying to eliminate light during the daytime to get myself to work. Sleep that originally put into midnight is replaced by programming, and I thought my body could handle it, and in fact, it did handle for the duration of the summer vacation.

2: Although I shouldn't be proud of this, I like to always hide at least one side of me or an interest of mine from everyone*.

(and that includes my parents... umm..... lol, I should choose my words more wisely in a blog that only my parents read.... ummm..... My blog is a pandora box, it's not the creator's fault that the pandora is opened, it is the people's own choice to do it. I'm not dissing anyone, just that I can type what I want :) , oh no.....)

3: While some might argue that being a specialist is better than being sub-par at a number of things, I would say there are benefits to both.

4: Same thing with deadlines. I really cannot leverage on deadlines that much. [facepalm with depressed face and shaking head] I am not going to write a blog post about it because it is a known fact, and people don't need to know my justification for procrastination, nor do I have the need to ventilate about it.

[2]



I finished the redesign of [3]my website. Now, I cross my fingers for the wish of having colleges see it and be impressed by it

1. <https://1.bp.blogspot.com/-gXk7ekHLSeM/X6csGJ8iA4I/AAAAAAAAHS0/eULtnsRgpbPrjt7gvMq9eqzeQ7Y4nN6ACLcBGA/sYHQ/s1536/coding.png>
2. <https://1.bp.blogspot.com/-70g37DVp240/X6csfKq78qI/AAAAAAAAHS8/FTh3VC4V6eI7AsVe-sgRGxfMH-6Bo0u9QCLcBGA/sYHQ/s1920/Screenshot%2B2020-11-07%2B152320.jpg>
3. <https://speedstor.net/>

Speedstor (2020-11-09 01:11:20)

I know I just spent an hour detailing why I should sleep despite everything, but its midnight now, and I am not finished with my work.

How does that work?

I guess the answer is within my name, "speed" (that is so cringe), but I'm tired

Speedstor (2020-11-09 03:02:36)

how ironic is it, the day that I wrote about needing to sleep more, I decided to not sleep that day..

Joanne (2020-11-18 19:21:40)

Take care!

Making a case - COVID-19 - the unpopular opinion (2020-11-27 06:18)

I have accidentally deleted my whole post in the process of making it look good, but through my first writing of this post, I have really realized the seriousness of this issue, and I cannot give up writing. A rewrite only serves to make the point more convincing, and after a bit of rage, I am at it again. If you are in any way interested, please donate your time and read through the whole post, thxx.

Comments in hindsight: While I still agree with what I have written, a new perspective I

am considering is "We don't trade lives, captain". While deciding both ways against the virus is, to a certain extent, playing God. Not giving up on any individual no matter the cost is a commendable action, not that I have any credibility. (just sharing my thoughts)

"Better to be safe than sorry", I think this mindset sums up a lot about the forefront of our society. Through our experience with disasters and genocides, we have developed caution and counter-measures to deal with potential accidents. These measures that aim to prevent recurrences include airport security, buildings' resistance to natural disasters, and lately, the topic of this post, quarantine. The former two listed are done to prevent the 1% or even 0.1%, and we strive to use them to provide people as much safety as we possibly can. And while saving any human life is worth a million, practicalists such as Elon Musk are less concerned about that 1%, and instead are more interested in multiplying the current state by 2 or 3 times. Elon Musk had famously addressed the artificially boosted fatality of the Coronavirus, and while he still thinks social distancing is essential in lowering the risks, he believes that it should not come at the cost of disrupting the economy.

The Dormant Problem

We all understand the danger of a virus experiencing exponential growth, but there might be more demanding issues that we may have overlooked. Our society, and specifically the US, have built a store of surplus through the years, and without dealing with the specifics, have been relying upon it lately. The situation of the Coronavirus only exacerbated our 1 reliance upon surpluses as governments hand out checks to keep the cycle of the economy afloat. While society and the economy seem to keep on running, throwing money at the problem is only a temporary solution. Problems of manufacturing cannot be solved by legislating the movement of money, and there needs to be practical work for a meaningful output. Our industry as a whole is not yet totally replaced by robots, and labor is still being used. The food that we have access to are all pro-

cessed at different levels, and as long as there were people needed for the processing before, someone has to do that processing now. The need for labor cannot be solved through the dollar, and work cannot be replaced by money alone. The effects of the lockdown, although are already showing, are still not in full effect. Normally, there are delays between the situation and its observable outcome. But even so, the price of food had already shown its initial blow: "The index price of fresh vegetables is now predicted to increase between 2.0 and 3.0 percent in 2020... Meat is now predicted to increase in price between 7.0 and 8.0 percent in 2020" ([1]USDA). The lack of labor for processing food is imminent, and continued quarantine at the same degree could be seen as detrimental. As modern societies, we have our own stock of surplus as said before, but surpluses are finite and could be used up. If no adequate actions are taken, the situation now is heading toward a food shortage.

[2]



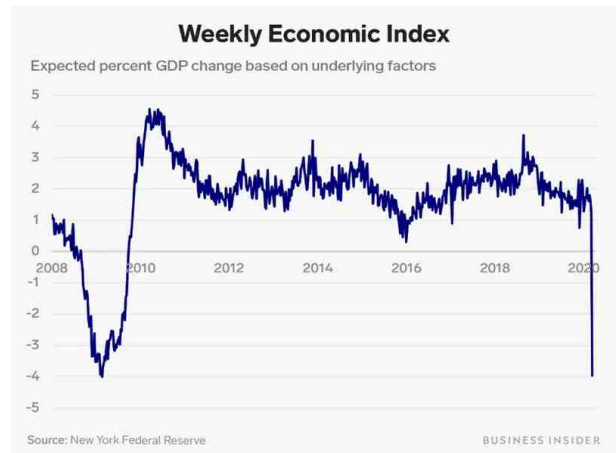
Our economy is still not run entirely by robots, and the lack of labor due to lockdown is the source of the problem. To prove my point, experts have said that the bottleneck to food unavailability is in the processing and not in the production (which had already been heavily automated): "Food prices are rising not because we don't have enough food, but mainly due to the fact that the agri-food supply chain is currently unable to deliver when and where food is needed due to the shortage of labor,

particularly at farm level” ([3]TODAY). Instead of bulk selling food to restaurants with little packaging, the small portions that are needed to be separated into for individual consumers takes labor, and people are needed to chop up the meat into packets. Lockdown and too severe levels of quarantine are detrimental and unsustainable. We shouldn’t need to do an experiment in which we know the outcome. And if the increasing food prices is not a good enough indication, logic should convince: someone has to be doing the labor that we had relied on previously.

The Dilemma

This all is the dilemma of saving every person we possibly can from the virus or sustaining our economy. While the answer to the problem seems straightforward: save the human lives that are each so precious, we cannot overlook the effects of not tending our economy. Economic depression has the potential to leave mass amounts of people with empty stomachs and be evicted from their homes. To make matters worse, these effects have already been showing in our society currently, and people are seriously suffering from unemployment (low living standards, being evicted). As we are keeping the number of corona infections low, we are putting others in suffering. While we are saving lives relating to covid, we are putting 11M people 4 out of jobs. And if we do not reopen the economy, the effects will only worsen.

[4]



The US government is advising homeowners to not evict their tenants, the US government is sending money to citizens, the US government is bailing out businesses to stimulate the economy. All the actions by the US are short-term fixes, and they are spending more and more money while receiving less tax. While the US government is definitely confident that their manipulation of money would not stimulate inflation, and I totally believe in their ability 2 , there is the reality of the shrink in the supply of goods. And as supply shrinks, the price would go up despite not having inflation, it is basic economics: rare things cost more. Goods don’t exist without people making them, and not reasserting the labor force is, I cannot stress enough, extremely detrimental. If we could accept that the economy has to restart at one point, then we should evaluate what effects it would bring if we do reopen.

Re-evaluating the Mortality rate of COVID-19

Yes, [5]240,000 deaths 3 is unfathomable, and no words can communicate the degree of spite for deaths at this magnitude. But we have to understand the number being presented, we cannot be swayed by numbers alone. There were 2,839,205 deaths in 2018, and while that number is soul-crushing, it does not mean

much when out of context. As hard as it is, we have to look at the reported numbers in context.

[6]

Week ending date in which the death occurred	All Deaths Involving COVID-19 (U07.1)	Deaths from All Causes	Percent of Expected Deaths	Deaths involving Pneumonia, with or without COVID-19, excluding influenza deaths (J12.0-J18.9)	Deaths involving COVID-19 and Pneumonia, excluding influenza (U07.1 and J12.0-J18.9)	All deaths involving influenza, with or without COVID-19 or Pneumonia (09-J11, includes COVID-19 or Pneumonia)	Deaths involving Pneumonia, influenza, or COVID-19 (U07.1 or J09-J18.9)
Total Deaths	240,213	2,379,548	11%	240,296	108,504	6,829	378,800

The first context we have to count in is what COVID deaths are tied with other causes. We have to consider whether the people already affected are representative of the current population. Out of the 240,000 deaths, 109,000 are also caused by Pneumonia which can be life-threatening on its own. The Coronavirus is a catalyst to those deaths and has its own effect, but the difficult question to ask is whether the mass population of the US is with Pneumonia. After that, the subsequent question would be how about the other 131,000 COVID deaths. And because of the inaccuracy of data, numbers for COVID deaths with COVID as not the underlying cause ranges from 7.8 % to 28.8 % ([7]CEBM), meaning these lives are likely to pass away with or without COVID. There are limits in data, but the limited conclusion is that in the condition of partial lockdown, COVID had been a catalyst in destroying health for 240,000 people, and that is out of 13M that got COVID. And that 13M is out of a population of 331M. This uncertainty in numbers is added upon the faulty recording of data. According to the [8]CDC, COVID deaths contributing to the numbers are determined “with or without laboratory confirmation”. Putting into context, it is uncertain that COVID deaths do have COVID. Part of the number of COVID deaths can be counted just because someone has symptoms of COVID, which are fever, cough,

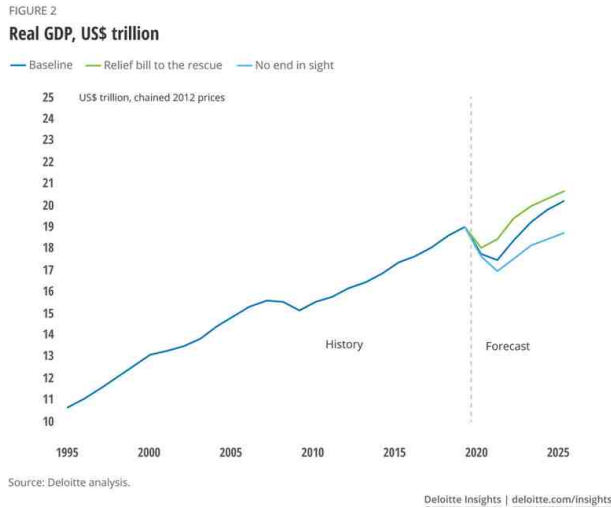
fatigue, etc. These are common symptoms across most sicknesses, and counting COVID deaths because of symptoms that might originate from non-COVID only adds to the uncertainty in the data. Given the numbers, one of the last questions is what is the bottom line. The controversial statement is that COVID will become something similar to cancer, but only contagious. To throw numbers like a heartless animal again, there are 609,640 cancer deaths in 2018 ([9]cancer.org). Death is part of life, and while we do our best to avoid it, it is undeniably eventually unavoidable. The level of lethality of COVID-19 is *uncertain*, and the data is in all sorts of ways influenced by a lot of factors that make it applicable or non-applicable to the mass population. And while there is uncertainty in the fatality of COVID-19, there is a concrete and imminent problem in the economy. The 240,000 deaths with some level of uncertainty are put against the 11M who have lost jobs and partially have faced eviction. I think the numbers at least ask for a reconsideration for some degree of reopening the economy.

Our Supposed Action

What we should do is what everyone is arguing about, but let’s lay down the undisputable, and state-wide testing is not one of the musts. Our first course of action should be getting more reliable data, and classifying COVID death without laboratory equipment cannot be tolerated. As we are racing for a vaccine, we do not even know about the full nature of the virus itself. And testing although is desirable to be rapid, cannot generate both false-positive and false-negative results. You are not supposed to be able to answer a yes-no question both wrongly positive and wrongly negative, that is like saying “it could be yes, but it also could be no”. No matter how rapid the test is, it is useless if

it is in no degree certain. You can have one or the other: false-positive or false-negative, and counter-measures can be taken, but not both at the same time.

[10]



And whether to reopen the economy should not be ruled out of the window. Without reopening the economy, food prices will only get higher and higher, and rent will only be continued being pushed off. There should at least be a serious consideration to reopening the economy. And of course, with more reliable data for COVID-19, we would be able to decide with much more certainty. Although the numbers are all skewed and misrepresented, for now, we are suppressing a questionable 240,000 deaths for 11M unemployed. And if this post hasn't convinced you of the idea of reopening the economy more, at least I have made you reconsider it. While the exponential growth of the virus is bad, the ever-increasing food prices and unpaid rent might be equally deadly. If we act too late, we might suffer the consequences of both.

1: I'm not American, but for the sake of fluency, I will use "our"

2: If there's inflation, I would be positive that it isn't because of the printing of money by the US

3: This number is in the US alone, at the time of writing, which is 11/27. The "precise" number is 240,213

4: $331,000,000[\text{US population}] \times (6.9 \%[\text{oct unemployment}] - 3.5 \%[\text{feb unemployment}]) = 11,254,000$ ([11]statista.com)

This didn't take me 7 hours to write, ahhhhhhhhh

- [1. https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/food-price-outlook/summary-findings/#:~:text=In%202019%2C%20retail%20food%2Dat,all%20other%20food%20categories%20increase](https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/food-price-outlook/summary-findings/#:~:text=In%202019%2C%20retail%20food%2Dat,all%20other%20food%20categories%20increase)
- [2. https://1.bp.blogspot.com/-oH6DY8Im_OA/X8D3Bq1MDHIAAAAAAAAAHUG/WrtXo8rOWwCMKFUqwNCJ1cvHi3Gi8781QCPcBGAYYCw/s600/79dafd1f644351132919c75a70b2cc52.png](https://1.bp.blogspot.com/-oH6DY8Im_OA/X8D3Bq1MDHIAAAAAAAAAHUG/WrtXo8rOWwCMKFUqwNCJ1cvHi3Gi8781QCPcBGAYYCw/s600/79dafd1f644351132919c75a70b2cc52.png)
- [3. https://www.today.com/food/why-are-grocery-prices-rising-t181700](https://www.today.com/food/why-are-grocery-prices-rising-t181700)
- [4. https://1.bp.blogspot.com/-pBhuh0jf0to/X8Cqss9iTQIAAAAAAAAAHUU/He9RfCWtt0oNaheGV3R9DBTm01CmVVG2ACPcBGAYYCw/s872/Screenshot%2B2020-11-26%2B232816.jpg](https://1.bp.blogspot.com/-pBhuh0jf0to/X8Cqss9iTQIAAAAAAAAAHUU/He9RfCWtt0oNaheGV3R9DBTm01CmVVG2ACPcBGAYYCw/s872/Screenshot%2B2020-11-26%2B232816.jpg)
- [5. https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/vsrr/covid19/index.htm](https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/vsrr/covid19/index.htm)
- [6. https://1.bp.blogspot.com/-6Xcou17-AGU/X8D4Y_fTzMIAAAAAAAAHU8/-FxCzlnbuRg8lhwbGKMx0pz_hN590aNdQCPcBGAYYCw/s956/Screenshot%2B2020-11-27%2B045959.jpg](https://1.bp.blogspot.com/-6Xcou17-AGU/X8D4Y_fTzMIAAAAAAAAHU8/-FxCzlnbuRg8lhwbGKMx0pz_hN590aNdQCPcBGAYYCw/s956/Screenshot%2B2020-11-27%2B045959.jpg)
- [7. https://www.cebm.net/covid-19/death-certificate-data-covid-19-as-the-underlying-cause-of-death/](https://www.cebm.net/covid-19/death-certificate-data-covid-19-as-the-underlying-cause-of-death/)
- [8. https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/pressroom/Counting_COVID19_deaths_FactSheet.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/pressroom/Counting_COVID19_deaths_FactSheet.pdf)
- [9. https://www.cancer.org/research/cancer-facts-statistics/all-cancer-facts-figures/cancer-facts-figures-2018.html#:~:text=Estimated%20numbers%20of%20new%20cancer,](https://www.cancer.org/research/cancer-facts-statistics/all-cancer-facts-figures/cancer-facts-figures-2018.html#:~:text=Estimated%20numbers%20of%20new%20cancer,)
- [10. https://1.bp.blogspot.com/-jKm7EPJpb2Q/X8D3RZf-QWIAAAAAAAAHUw/207dkY9EcHgYYMRuQb9XLS2mAq1EO_engCPcBGAYYCw/s2000/6604_Figure2.webp](https://1.bp.blogspot.com/-jKm7EPJpb2Q/X8D3RZf-QWIAAAAAAAAHUw/207dkY9EcHgYYMRuQb9XLS2mAq1EO_engCPcBGAYYCw/s2000/6604_Figure2.webp)
- [11. https://www.statista.com/statistics/273909/seasonally-adjusted-monthly-unemployment-rate-in-the-us/#:~:text=U.S.%20unemployment%20rate%3A%20seasonally%20adjuste](https://www.statista.com/statistics/273909/seasonally-adjusted-monthly-unemployment-rate-in-the-us/#:~:text=U.S.%20unemployment%20rate%3A%20seasonally%20adjuste)

Joanne (2020-11-28 02:58:54)
Good!

Lone Wolf (2021-01-19 03:40:57)
Each time I used to always check blog posts within the first hours in the break of day, because I like to get information increasingly more.
[1]Floor marking tape

- [1. https://www.jagannathpolymers.com/floor-marking-](https://www.jagannathpolymers.com/floor-marking-)

tape.asp

Speedstor (2021-01-22 11:45:52)

Glad you find it informational! Your comment made my day. My opinion isn't perfect, but it's at least one perspective :)

Speedstor (2021-01-22 11:46:42)

Comments in hindsight: While I still agree with what I have written, a new perspective I am considering is "We don't trade lives, captain". While deciding both ways against the virus is, to a certain extent, playing God. Not giving up on any individual no matter the cost is a commendable action, not that I have any credibility. (just sharing my thoughts)

carryminati (2021-03-21 01:46:40)

While the low pace of contamination so far shows that hCov-EMC presently has a low transmission rate - wellbeing authorities are exceptionally worried that at any second this lethal new strain of corona infection could additionally transform into a profoundly infectious illness that could quickly spread individual to-individual globally. [1]testeraanhuis.nl

1. <https://testeraanhuis.nl/>



Where am I? In that, the question is how competent am I really? I am aware of all the effects I have contributed, both the positive and negative, and part of me is content. I have been trying to find pieces of puzzles that would define the purpose of living, and although I have found many reasons against the end, I have not found many compelling reasons for the contrary. Not having enough sleep although has its effect, was not the core of the problem. I lack a purpose and a goal to look towards. The purpose that I have derived for myself was once fulfilled with short-term contributions and distractions, but those outlets have been decreasing in quantity, and I've derailed. Without a purpose, I've been caring less about the consequences, and have ignored structures that were previously in place. I have been feeling instead of doing. Dropping agendas, while disappointing masses. Lifting hopes, just to drop them from a higher place. For all the positives, it also each attaches with a counter. I had hidden behind my cult of personality, and people all around have bought into it. Some are more aware than the others, but they are supporting a hollow Trojan horse that will not deliver. I understand the trend of mine, and I agree, but momentum isn't the same across all mediums. Zoom in, and the reality sinks in. I'm one of the past fails, do what you will. Without a purpose, I focus on my past, and I am content. Re-reading and re-reading, looking into the mirror with that became-hollow structure. I'm derailed, and I'm not the one, but nor can I communicate. For all that I said, I've become an audience of

1.2 December

Narcissism - Displaced confidence (2020-12-04 00:47)

[1]

my own. Thinking I'm pressing skip, while I'm just ignoring the truth. I have achieved some, and part of me is content. I see hints of my doings, and part of me is content. See hints of my toxicity, but part of me relent. "Not Today", I agree. Find a better one, I've already did. Welcome, "Anathema", or so an ever tense pump.

Beauty I see, but better off without me.

"No one plan to lose" 1, and I have surely laid out the plan for my victory. I have my ceremony all figured out weeks before the results are out. Now that the answer is a week away, my success seem slim.

1: im_a_squid_kid

I just don't have an answer

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Not meant to be solved; you can try, but gl

- 1. https://1.bp.blogspot.com/-dprawUE15q4/X8nmdoTKlgI/AAAAAAAAHWg/4h5asKVob0wRBkPr00VQJ1wFaodM8Gf7gCLcBGA/sYHQ/s2048/Untitled_Artwork.png
- 2. https://1.bp.blogspot.com/-J6TcwggG01g/X88NFNdqf3I/AAAAAAAAHXA/-HxpViQ188wGn6tRGzvjFWBHeorXK6WtwCLcBGA/sYHQ/s2048/Untitled_Artwork.png

25 Reasons Why (2020-12-19 22:38)

Whenever someone approaches me with a bad idea and want my help with it, I ask them to provide 10 reasons to why they want to pursue it. The intention is to justify that idea either way: to solidify or dismantle it. Although this is an adequate way to evaluate efforts, it had always been a double standard that I impose, in that I don't do this to myself. And even when I do, I do so very loosely. But status quo are meant to be broken, so here I am after being deferred by MIT.

This is not unexpected, but there was such a concrete feeling of hope before MIT release their decisions. Things in the past set anchors, and there are little to no ways to revert those anchor points. What I can do now is to see what directions I had taken in the past, and learn which directions to avoid in the future.

I had re-read my blog for at least 25 times for the last 4 months, and it is only fair that I provide 25 reasons why I wasn't prolific enough. And as you can't tell from the introductory paragraphs, this post is going to be cringe. If you still want to open this paradora box of mine, you can select some text on the page and click ctrl+A and see the list. [1]



I'm aware that I drew this a while back, but I'm

out of artworks again :(

1. **Not having "outsourced credibility"**, of not winning competitions or high scores on standardized tests
2. **not being social enough**, of not joining clubs, contributing as a group
3. **Displaced confidence**, of believing that I can trust in my introverted ways
4. **not being a leader**, of succumbing to what peers suggest
5. **not asserting my viewpoint** (when I see things going south, I don't speak up, I just let things play out) [Because sometimes it is me that is wrong, and the situation was actually going perfectly north without any problems]
6. **distractions**; although these distractions made me more social, it was not the most effective way
7. **second-guessing what others think of me**; although this normally result in self-deprecation, for me, I became a little too confident
8. **maybe, allowing myself to enter "dream state"**; this one is vague, only I know what it means
9. **too focused on internal worth**; Although I think I am somewhat competent, it is within my thoughts, and not in regards to my outputs
10. **not enough competition**; I have concluded that competition is bad, but it doesn't rule out the overpowering energy one can assert on tasks
11. **not taking action**; although I code relatively a lot, for the previous half a year, I have been trying to identify problems instead
12. **not adjust to society's standard**; it's no use being Einstein, if your discoveries and inventions only exists in your head. There's need to display, humans are social animals

13. **maybe, speedstor | 0x(2)12192259;** ?of ambition?
14. **being too deterministic;** As much as I admire Meursault, he ends up in prison, not in MIT.
15. **being too "elevated";** While not caring and living by what I need is quite nice, there is a lack of motivation in result. I know I money is just a construct, I know what my scores represent in the long run, I know what being employed means in the long run. But applying those understanding in high-school life is ineffective.
16. **not defining a short-term purpose;** yeah, saving humanity is nice, but that will not give you a single molecule of endorphin within your whole lifetime
17. **criticizing others in meaningless ways;** yeah, others don't get the big picture, of how one sentence said aloud can change the course of history, but what's the use seeing that far into the future, what the hell, me?
18. **too much abstraction in my thinking;** Although simplifying what worked into temporary "facts" is helpful in thinking in the big picture, those "facts" aren't facts, but only hollow structures
19. **are my priorities scuffed? ;** I put writing an irresistible blog post topic over anything in life. I justify that it is adjusting my thinking, which has a multiplying effect. But as a student, shouldn't "grades" be the first priority
20. **headless confidence;** "aim for the stars, you will at least land on the moon", but am I aiming too high
21. **hobbies;** can i really justify playing basketball everyday because it's healthy, and saxophone because "music is what makes us human"?
22. **youtube;** everything special about me somewhat originate from youtube; coding, basketball, revisiting saxophone, my love for computer, music, etc. But am I watching it too much?
23. **not reading enough;** I only really read during March to June each year. But reading is like the boost pads in games, and I am actively dodging them. Reading is the single fastest way to improve, and I am not reading enough.
24. **allowing laziness;** when I seemingly have "too much" to do, instead of trying my hardest to fit everything in, I choose things to be lazy on, and bulk my attention on my priorities
25. **comparing myself with "gods";** Listening to George Hotz and thinking "I can relate" may be the most arrogant thing ever. I'm one-a-thousandth of him, and while others maybe one-a-three-thousandth of him, it does not mean I am anywhere near him. He coded for 30 years, while I coded for 3. I need to know my place.

I still have much much more to learn, and I always forget that. I am relatively professional at my areas, but the key word is "relatively". Adjust the focus just a little bit out, and I'm below average. I must push the gas pedal a little harder.

1. https://1.bp.blogspot.com/-xCV9YSMP9eg/X97kf1U2ZVI/AAAAAAAAHYs/UX0xG51HWLAcYoMcVdpM3Um8p3wtRsHfwCLcBGA/sYHQ/s1541/Untitled_Artwork.png

2. 2021

2.1 January

Inner peace (2021-01-23 17:47)

What is the purpose of life? I've been trying to find a meaningful conclusion. Biology and evolution say it is to pass on our genes, but to a conscious person, or me at least, it seems unfulfilling. Einstein said, "only a life lived for others is a life worth living". Although that was my attempted philosophy, it is sometimes difficult to maintain when I may seem to be bent over backwards with my hands tied. Consciousness and our ability to experience events make us agents of purpose. We devise plans, create agendas, create structures. We anticipate the future to be prepared for the worst. But when we are in comfort and have the surplus to anticipate even further, we sometimes approach the anticipation of death.

To me in the past, death seems to discredit all one's achievements, and I find it hard to battle against the idea of cashing out early. Even so, the pain that is attached to death produced enough resistance. That pain that would be inflicted upon myself, but more importantly, everyone that knows me. After I reasoned out the possibility of hell, the argument against death falls onto and is supported solidly by human connections. (The failure of one node in the network of connections would cause a cascade of circuit failures, and the effects would be multiplied)

Time keeps ticking, and we, as humans within society, each relay one signal after the other. The idea of determinism degrades one's decisions down to chemical reactions. Believing in such a concept leaves us, the agent of the chemical reactions, hopeless and stripped of meaning.

Backtrack

The problem to my past philosophy is that I'm exploring a topic with a dead-end. But "what's

happened, happened. Which is an expression of faith in the mechanics of the world, not an excuse to do nothing." (Tenet) Determinism is a way to describe the mechanics of the world, and it is how it is. Technoblade once said, "What do you do after you prove that there's no free will? You go and have a party celebrating the achievement". The world is running its own course, and understanding it gives us perspective, nothing much more. The baseline to the purpose of life is to not die, and one can do whatever he/she wants with the time now in his/her disposal.

Inner Peace

This perspective of determinism tells the workings of the world, and it gives reasons to displaced events. It is to support that viewpoint of: "There is just news, there's no good or bad" 2 . While we might have reels of documentation of the world, and we judge events base on our understanding, they all are just our best attempt 1 . Streamlining our efforts and doing our best, to some, is the core of living. As events come and go, our action is to prevent reoccurrences of undesirable events and pave way for a better future. Noting mistakes and asserting force on resistances. The mental energy we invest in is the currency for progress and improvement, and our brain is the printer of this currency as we focus on tasks that are expensive. Mental energy is the solution to resistance, and while my brain might often succumb to resistance, it is just to know that the answer was always the need for that mental energy.

[1]



Just keep hammering at it-

1: Oogway also said, "You must let go the illusion of control". While I believe there is some truth to it, and some things are indeed useless and distracting to control, there are still things that we should control, and the quote is not with the full context. There is a balance between the two. duh, I'm stupid... anyways.

2: There is bad news. but only when there is a bad reactive decision. If one response to an event is negative, then that event has a negative impact. And to make events positive, to me at least, we must understand it and learn from it (to our absolute best ability).

This post makes no literary sense. Am I getting worse at writing, or is it just the lack of vocabulary for the topic? The sentences I type does not seem to connect together. eee. And, it is a fact that I am getting awaringly over-confident. I wasn't going to write this post, but I wanted to write a post.

I now know that inner peace is partially just stoicism. But the thing is that I understood it be-

fore I knew about stoicism, and I want to give myself some credit :).

I've heard other young people say, why should we respect the old? And the answer is that although we have more facts/knowledge than some of the more elder, the elder experienced more. The things that I have figured out in this post have already been figured by those older that may not know all the skills I know. It is the experience they have, and the understanding of life they possess.

1. <https://1.bp.blogspot.com/-qNFMxmlME6E/YAzCJmL7kMI/AAAAAAAAHdY/QBT729xKr8IOuBOYtg16eYo6acP6eimqgCLcBGA/sYHQ/s2048/kyrie2.png>

Catudal Nguyen (2021-02-21 06:48:10)

Check out Taoism and Carl Jung's writings. I think you might find it interesting.

Speedstor (2021-02-21 14:24:39)

Thank you for the suggestion!!

I checked them both out, just finished half of 'The Red Book'. Jung's philosophy is very revealing, but also misguided in my opinion. Fiction can be a double-edged sword. If I were to have my own Red Book, its collection wouldn't fit in one library.

But its great to know that I'm not the only one :)



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