

UOW College Hong Kong / Community College of City University
Student English Enhancement Unit (SEE U)
Daily English Practice

Week 2

#158 Five Child Prodigies: Vivian Yee

Skills/ Objectives: Reading, Listening and Writing Skills

PART 1: Before you read...

Preparatory questions

Qt 1: Were you a typical child? Would you describe your former self as naughty, immature, or timid?

Qt 2: While most children growing up behaving like, well, most other children, some do stand out and behave beyond their age. Were you this kind of child?

Qt 3: There is a kind of child prodigy that is close to us. When still young they distinguish themselves in ways only imaginable to most others. Do you consider an eloquent student leader, for example, something of a child prodigy?

The answer to relevant question in the preceding set of exercises (Five Child Prodigies: March Tian Boedihardjo) are as follows:

Answer to Qt 4: How much do you know about Boedihardjo from the mass media?

Born in 1998, Boedihardjo graduated from Baptist University, with his Master of Philosophy thesis entitled "Topics in Banach space theory" (2011) accepted by the University. He went on for further study in the US and today he is a university professor.

Vocabulary

- (Governing) body (noun): a group that manages or controls the activities of country, region, or organization.
- Unwarranted (adjective): not having a good reason and therefore annoying or unfair.

PART 2: Article for Reading

Good GPAs are within grasps of just about any hardworking students; leadership skills are a different matter. One often grows up with such skills rather than actively acquires them. Vivian Yee might be considered such kind of girl:

"Age is just a number": Pierce College student body president a 14-year-old girl

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/good-news/age-is-just-a-number-pierce-college-student-body-president-a-14-year-old-girl/ar-BBX195c?ocid=spartandhp>

PART 3: Listening Comprehension

Watch the following short video clip to learn more about Vivian Yee straight from herself while practicing your listening skills at the same time:

“Age is just a number”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g2MWyPif0R4>

PART 4: Writing Practice

Vivian Yee’s mother is quoted verbatim in the article posted in Part 2:

“I think sometimes people wonder, ‘Oh [my daughter] looks kinda young,’ but then she would try and blend in and not really reveal her age until later, and she’s made some pretty good friends,” Lillian Yee, Vivian’s mom, said.

According to her mother, when Vivian Yee tried to “blend in” with schoolmates quite a bit older than herself, she was welcome. She was not seen as an alien. She was not rejected. In fact, even when they found out that Vivian Yee was much younger, they still welcomed her.

To “blend in” means to look or seem the same as surrounding people and therefore not be easily noticeable. Another example of its use is as follows:

These new immigrants have adopted local customs and tried to blend in with the community.

Can you write a sentence of your own using the expression “to blend in (with)”? Send your writing to: see.u@cccu.edu.hk. Remember! Our **SEE U** teachers are always ready to give you feedback.