



Best Caption Award 1st Runner Up

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Theme:	<input type="checkbox"/> Social Issues	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Popular Culture	<input type="checkbox"/> Inspiring People & Amazing Deeds
Division:	<input type="checkbox"/> S.1 – 3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S.4 – 7	
Date:	13 June, 2008		
Title:	Memo Revolution		
Picture:			
Caption:	<p>Memos are everywhere. They are messages of love that push us through dark tunnels and lead us to a life of magnificence.</p>		
Commentary:	<p>Memos are no longer academic - they have revolutionised into channels for teens to vent out their creativity. You find them in teens' schedule books, on their classroom desks or the adjacent wall, on their laptops, in their wallets, on the bed side, on the little billboard in their room, or occasionally on their back during lessons. There are scribbled words, graffiti, coloured doodling pictures and signatures accompanying poems, lyrics, slogans, jokes, self-confessions and pledges. It is a good sign that the memo culture is gradually growing into the mainstream, since on top of promoting imaginations and artistry, it is also facilitating interpersonal exchanges and relationships.</p> <p>During times of tests, exams and busy homework, it is easy to find slips of colour memos flagging victoriously at the rim of desks in classrooms. Words like "don't give up", "let's work hard together", "don't forget to bring coffee mates" and a smiley at the corner inject tremendous energy into students' body tanks. When they start yawning into the dumb and boring Times New Romans on their notes, but suddenly catch sight of the heart-warming and encouraging memos, they can't help but gather themselves together and continue their work.</p> <p>One thing good about memos is that the sticky film can last after the memos are repeatedly</p>		

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stuck and detached. In other words, you can always carry the encouraging memos around and stick them near you wherever you go. You can take a friend's memo from school back to home, then to the library, then to the sports ground where you compete. The first advantage is that you are encouraged by the memos without space restrictions; the second is that you can always remember your friends' reminder for you; the third is that you will not forget to write a memo to the friend some time later.

Another thing good about memos is the small size, meaning that the words on top should be concise and inspiring enough to carry across the message. The fewer the number of words, the more powerful the memos. The simple words can easily sink into our mind and become a positive energy that circulates around our body and provide us with nutrients. They are almost like our blood, but they are not for maintaining bodily function, but spiritual health.

Memo reminds me of spending time to love and care for people around me. When I am busily studying and writing notes on memos, I sometimes reserve a few of those sticky papers for my family and friends. I will write, "remember your mobile" for Mum, "remember your meal" for Dad, and "remember to do exercise" for my brother. Nor do I forget to encourage myself - I will write, "persist and you'll make it" for myself. It is incredible how the little slips of paper can work the magic. Sometimes I think that people of this century are having a deficiency in their ability to express love. They think that if they earn a lot of money, then the wealth can support a happier and more satisfying life for their families. Wealth can of course provide people of the feeling of security and stability, since at least they don't have to worry about food and accommodation with sufficient income. However, above a certain amount of wealth, money is no longer providing security but a luxury that tempts us into seeking more of it blindly. What truly provides security is the feeling of being cared for and loved in terms of spiritual level. Memos cost nothing, but they say a thousand words that soothes and heals many tired and unhappy souls.

I remember during the teachers' day, there is always a pile of teachers' cards distributed by the teachers, who would ask us to fill them in and give them back to them. Sometimes I find this practice rather ridiculous and pathetic. It is as if the teachers are so desperate for encouragement that they have to nearly force students to show some response to their genuine love and guidance in our learning. How come students can't be a little bit more generous in showing their appreciation for their teachers? I mean it is an easy task - just to write a few words of gratitude on memos and stick them onto homework to be handed in! It may seem random and stupid to say "thank you" to teachers in an assignment, but why not? If you can do this to your classmates, why not teachers then? I believe in the magic power of

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memos, which are perfectly thoughtful and encouraging gifts for teachers.

Memos should also extend to workplace. Why should memos always be categorized as channels of administrative communication between staff and department heads, but not friendly reminders for each other? Instead of just writing, "Meeting 1 pm-2 pm", can we add phrases like "take more rest! you have been too busy recently"? This is how friendship can develop in a firm between boss and staff. Why do we bother office politics? Why can't we be more friendly and caring to each other?

Memos are certainly spiritual dosage which everyone should give and receive every day.
OTHER AND OUR LIGHT CAN BE MUSTERED, LIKE THE CANDLES.

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