

SHANTOU BEAT



ENGLISH LANGUAGE CENTER
英语语言中心

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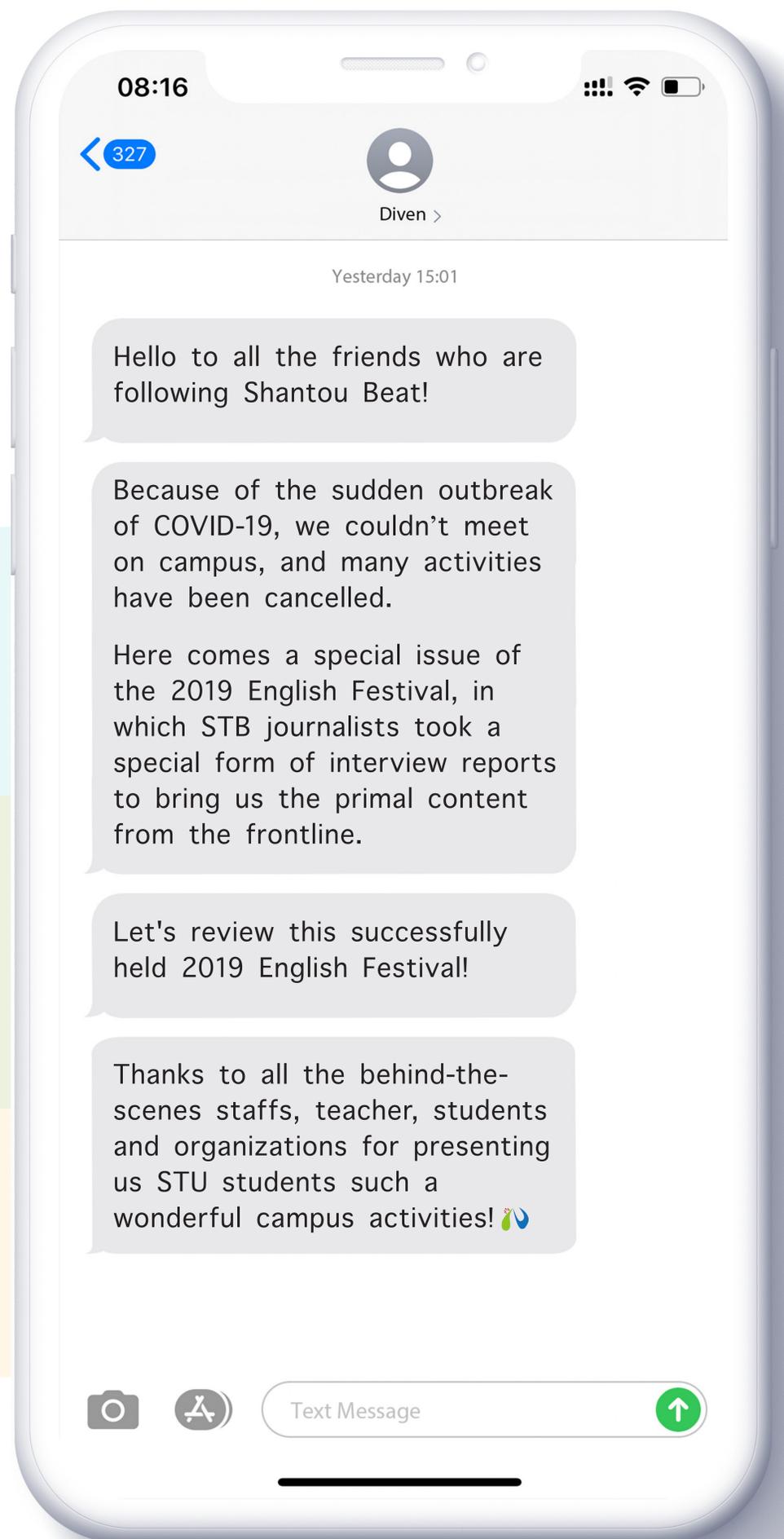
October 2020

English Language Center, Shantou University

Professional And CHIC

Your Unread Message¹ From STB President

Diven 林驰 (2018)



Opening Night

Gavin 李嘉炜 (2019), Apple 陈晓彤 (2019)

Gavin, Apple: Q Jason 袁哲 (MC): A

Q : How did you prepare for the opening ceremony ?

A : First, I wrote my script and practiced over and over. I thought the most important thing was to build a great relationship with group members and the sense of cooperation with my partner.

Q : How do you feel about the opening ceremony?

A: I thought it's a big hit. It was very successful and even cute and I thought it's because of all of our effort that we made it succeed.

Q : What do you expect for the following contest?

A: Here I wish that it would make a big success.

Q : Have you had any difficulty in preparation? How did you deal with it ?

A: I thought the most difficult thing was that we needed to change our scripts many times. Even when we were on stage, we also needed to change the sequence of some lines. So I thought the most difficult thing was uncertainty. 🌟

Speech Semi-final

Gavin 李嘉炜 (2019), Apple 陈晓彤 (2019), Mary 徐曼倩 (2019)

On Nov.9 2019, there was the Speech Semi-final Contest holding in the Science Hall. After a fierce competition, competitors finished their speech and gave the audience a fantastic performance. Let's have a look what they had to say about their unique experiences.

About the feeling after contest

The student participants put on their best show in the contest. Ding, majoring in Business Administration, said she felt overjoyed during the process. She was so nervous before the contest that she even forgot some details in her speech. However, she was still satisfied on account of her friends, who performed wonderfully and went up to the final rounds. Anffy shared his feelings with us. He said " I am rather happy , because I made a lot of new friends here." Some of his friends were not as close before, but now they have become good friends, like Ivy. Anffy thought it was a very wonderful experience for him.

About the way to overcome nervousness

Nervousness is always the biggest enemy when we are on the stage. Being aware of this fact, our competitors told us some effective ways to overcome the anxiety. Firstly, Therese said: "I have just taken a deep breath and used my maximum strength to hold my pen cap, then doing this will focus on the cap, not my anxiety on the stage." At the same time, Ivy told us: "Umm, you should try to focus on something else..."

And when you are on the stage, maybe you are nervous but you forget it. You just talk and don't pay attention to your mind."

About the method to learn English

When talking about how to learn English well, the competitors gave some suggestions. Lucy, who got the permission to the final round, said: "I think we should practice every day, no matter you are watching movie or reading books. You have to do it. If you do it like a hobby every day, you will make progress." Anffy also said : "My experience is keeping talking, keeping listening and keeping practicing in your spare time. They will make a great contribution to you. If you don't have time, you can use other ways. Just use some time." In general, practice is an important part in learning well. Practice makes perfect.

We really admired the perfect performances displayed by all participants on the stage. With the passion of youth, the skill of speech and the goal to win, they tried their best to prove themselves. Obviously, they did it. In a way, all of them were winners.

Who will be the next winner? Who knows? Maybe you! 🌟



Singing Semi-final

Doris 麦文慧 (2019), Tinsley 丁小燕 (2019), Stacey 陆慧婕 (2019)

On the evening of November 9th, ten contestants gathered in the Science Hall to challenge the top four seats. They all have the same ambitions to show their love for singing to the audiences. Every singer has their own personalities, styles and the ability to make audiences immerse in their performances.

Looking at those stars shining on the stage, It wasn't just their music that amazed the audiences, but also their extraordinary confidence. How can they act so confidently? Some of the singers shared their sentiment when confronted by such question.

“It’s my destiny to sing.” Tinky, who majors in Applied Chemistry, said that she has a keen determination to sing a song which matches with her youth and that is why she chose <Young Blood>.

“Some of us are still young, but some exude a unique and mature style, which makes us feel solid.” Jeson, a rock boy, who majors in Marketing, was calm instead of being nervous on the stage. “I have prepared for this contest for almost 3 years and I have attended the Cinderella musical last year. When I am on the stage, I enjoyed myself.”



Stacey & Jeson

“Before the competition, I was really nervous, but when I come up to the stage, when I open my mouth to sing the first sentence, I felt I am totally drunk in this situation.” The person who told us this remarkable story is Charles, who participated in this competition for the first time.



Tinsley & Charles

“Just imaging that you’re a singer and all the audience are your fans.” is Ambrose advice for anyone who has a stage fright. This kind of free and easy manner deserve our admiration.



Doris & Ambrose

<Country road take me home>, which is a classical song performed by Kevin, one of the top four competitor. “It was the first classical song I have heard when I was a child and also the first song I learned how to play on the guitar. This song means my beginning, my home and also the single guitar solo.” Home means the beginning and also the end for him.



Stacey & Kevin

“Just enjoy the show, do not care much about the win and failure”, “Just enjoy, maybe you will be better”, excellent competitors Era and Carol said. As the members of STU choir, these two singers really touched audiences by their moving voices.



Tinsley & Era

Words and melodies in songs transmit feelings and emotions that move us. The contestants all used their power to tell us their inner story with their songs. There is no limit to singing as long as you love to sing. Maybe next time it will be you who will be standing on the stage and shining like a star. 🌟

(All pictures are from STB journalists)

Speech Final

Doris 麦文慧 (2019), Stacey 陆慧婕 (2019)

Evan Leong

(Doris: Q Evan Leong: A)

Q1: When you get the random question in round 2, what's your first feeling about it?

A1: I was shocked because the question is quite hard I think. And it kind of caught me off guard. I think what my speech was OK, but not great.

Q2: You didn't prepare such topic before?

A2: I prepared for similar topics before, but not this particular one. Personally, I think is quite challenging for me.

Q3: How can you come up with the idea so quickly?

A3: Actually, this is the thought that I had before, so I just retrieve the idea from the memory and put it into words. That put a lot of strain on the speaker and this is really a demanding competition to us. So, I think this is really a good opportunity to learn, at least for me.

Q4: Did you make sufficient preparation for the impromptu speech?

A4: No. Actually not. I mainly prepared for the memorized speech.

Q5: When you were on the stage, were you nervous?

A5: At first I wasn't that nervous. But then the small things happened, like my number tag fell on floor and the light is kind of shining into my eyes, these trivial things kind of stressed me out and in the middle speech I became so nervous that I even struggled to complete my speech.

Q6: Does the time limit affect your speech?

A6: I barely used up my time limit, so I don't think it's a problem.

Q7: Do you have any other answer for the random question in round 2?

A7: Yes, I had one. At first, I was thinking about controlling anger, but I didn't have much to say on that, so I just threw it away.

Q8: What do you think of this competition?

A8: Really appreciate they held this event. You have to memorize a speech and also to give two impromptu speeches. 🌸

Anffy (肖铭杰)

(Stacey: Q Anffy: A)

Q1: How did you prepare your speech?

A1: Actually, it is a draft written long before the semi-final, and now I simply elaborate it and adapt it as my final presentation. Basically, it is same. It was a story that happened years ago with a moral that if you don't try and you will lose the chances and the opportunities. So, it fits the theme we got today--- chances & challenges.

Q2: When you got your question in the second round, what do you think about it? Have you ever prepared for such topics?

A2: I participated in the Model United Nations club, in which we discussed all these worldwide problems and for a long time. So I just picked up two main arguments from my past experience as my two main points.

Q3: How do you think of your performance tonight?

A3: I'm quite satisfied because I have spent so much time on preparing for the contest. And no matter what the result would be, it will be a wonderful experience for me. 🌸

Mutia Hasymi

(Stacey: Q Mutia Hasymi: A)

Q1: How do you think of your performance tonight?

A1: Actually the best thing about the contest is the opportunity to speak in front of lots of people, and share the opinions with them. I met people from different countries with various perspectives.

Q2: How did you prepare for your speech?

A2: I prepared my speech and then I learned how to speak in front of a big group of people. Because I got nervous easily in public speaking. Actually mirror talking is my habit to talk to myself when I'm driving or working on my tasks.

Q3. When you got your question in the second round, what do you think about it? Have you ever prepared for such topics?

A3: The question is related to my prepared speech. I can answer relate it to my own story and it's just like mirror talking. 🌸

Doris & Evan Leong



Stacey & Mutia Hasymi >
< Stacey & Anffy



Kelly Lai (3rd place)**Q1: When you get the random question in the round 2, what's your first feeling about it?**

A1: When I got the question, I was like very very nervous because I have only 10 mins to prepare for the speech and for the question part I have only like 3 second. So, I was very nervous to organize everything in just a very short period of time and I was freaked out and even shaking.

Q2: Did you prepare for such topic before?

A2: No, I have never thought about it.

Q3: So, what's your preparation before this competition?

A3: I try to memorize my prepared speech well hoping I won't forget anything. It's kind of cool that everyone gathered there and compete.

Q4: What have you learnt from it?

A4: In this competition, the competitors are from different places like Japan, Indonesia and I'm from Macao. My mother tone is Cantonese. Not only speaking in English to different contestants, I also practice my memory as well. Through this competition I learned about different culture and I learned a lot of useful skills for public speaking from other people.

Q5: Were you nervous when you were on the stage?

A5: Very much nervous. I was shaking. I don't know if the audience noticed it or not.

Q6: How could you overcome it?

A6: Right now, I still trying to overcome this public speaking anxiety. I think

what we can do is to practice as much as possible because the saying goes: "Practices makes perfect."

Q7: In your speech, you have mentioned Jack Ma. What else have you learned from Jack Ma?

A7: Because his life experience is very inspiring like he tried to apply for different jobs and even after multiple rejections, he still holds on to it. If I were him, I would have given up at the very beginning. So, I found his stories very inspirational.

Q8: What are some life changing decisions you have made so far?

A8: Actually, joining this public speech contest is one of my biggest life changing decisions. Because I have been a quite person; I haven't given much speeches and I was neither talkative or sociable. By joining this contest, I actually overcome lots of my fears, my phobias and I found it was indeed life changing.

Q9: How could you become so active and talkative?

A9: As I got in the high school, I found all that people around me are striving for their goals while I don't have anything that I am good at. I must have tried everything and I found that public speaking suits me so I am going for it. 💧

**Olivia Yang (2nd place)**
(Doris: Q Olivia Yang: A)**Q1: When you get the random question in the round 2, what's your first feeling about it?**

A1: To be honest, my brain totally went blank, and I didn't know what to say. So, I made a joke. That's what I would do when I got very nervous. Although that was not a good one.

Q2: Have you prepare some topic to give the speech in round 2?

A2: Yes, I have been preparing for this round 2 speech in the semi-final. I think I really lack this kind of ability to think fast and make quick responses, so I try to train myself to be better at this. And I practice this with my friends. Each day we chose one topic and talk about it and we also questioned each other. And then when I passed the semi-final, I try to focus on the logic on my speech by writing a full essay on a topic each day.

Q3: Have you changed the practicing method?

A3: Yes, because my friend is a little busy and nobody can practice with me, so I have to do this alone at times. When I do the round 2 speech on my own, I do not take it very seriously. So I just try to be more focused. It's kind of my big problem that I couldn't focus all the time. In order to stay focused, I chose to practice writing except speaking. I still couldn't focus very well today during the competition, but I will keep trying.

Q4: Are you nervous on the stage?

A4: Not really today. I was a lot more nervous in the semi-final because I put a lot of stress on myself, and I think my biggest problem will be that. I am

not afraid of the audience, yet the stress comes from within. I think if I fell short

of my expectation, I will be so ashamed of myself and lose confidence. And today I have all my Melody friends here. We dance and that really ease my nerves and takes all of the nervousness away from me today.

Q5: Do you think the foreign competitors will make any difference to this competition?

A5: Sure, they are all very good. They are very powerful.

Q6: What have you learnt from the foreign competitors?

A6: I think they presented more different perspectives in their speeches. And I think they talk not just about themselves and they have broader visions. So that is what I learnt--to see a bigger picture and not just to think about myself.



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Doris & Olivia Yang

Katherine(林丽菁)

(Stacey: Q Katherine: A)

Q1: How do you think of your performance tonight?

A1: I was not expecting the prize, but generally I was quite satisfied with my performance tonight. I think I have done my best.

Q2: How did you prepare for your speech?

A2: Once I learnt that the theme of this English festival is chances & challenges, I wrote the script by myself and I try to connect the theme to my personal experience. And after that I tried to improve my speech by polishing my speech skills and improving my pronunciation and intonation.

Q3: When you got your question in the second round, what do you think about it ?Have you ever prepared for such topics?

A3: I think it is a tough question. And the judge asked me to comment on money, whether it is bad thing and why should we create it? The first thing that came into my mind is that, nobody can live without money. It's true. But I'm not going to define the advantages of money, and I think money is a neutral thing, and at the end of my answer, I urged people to use money probably. I think I handle the question pretty well, but it was a little bit short for the time limit.

Q4: Did your ideas come all in a sudden or have you prepared for such topics?[ROUND2]

A4: No.Honesty this the first time I came across this topic. Whenever

I practice for speech, I have thesis structure and I follow the structure. But the content is flexible depending on what message I'm going to deliver. So I came up with two points, and added some my personal experiences and other evidence to the points. This is what people usually do in the content speech. Because thesis structure can help you handle all of the thesis subjects, whatever questions you are asked, you can use the structure. The structure is the most important thing in content speech, even though you may not come across the exact same questions. And as for the skills, I think talking to yourself and thinking in English are good ways to prepare, because you only have 5 seconds to think about the question and to respond. So it is very important for you to practice every day even though you are not in the contest. To force yourself to think in English, and express your opinions in English.



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Katherine Lin on the stage
Stacey & Katherine
v



Debate Final

Mary 徐曼倩 (2019) ,Tinsley 丁小燕 (2019)

Risqy Nur Febrianti & Tifani Yuris Signor

Tinsley: Q

Tifani Yuris Signor: A1

Risqy Nur Febrianti: A2



Tinsley, Tifani Yuris Signor & Risqy Nur Febrianti

Q1: Can you introduce yourself to us?

A1: I am Tifani Yuris Signor from Sebelas Maret University, Indonesia

A2: I am Risqy Nur Febrianti from Sebelas Maret University, Indonesia

Q2: As the winner of the competition, how do you feel now?

A1: We feel a little shocked

A2: You know we did not respect the result at first.

Q3: How do you evaluate your performance today? Do you satisfied with your performance?

A1: Rather say we are satisfied with the performance, we do not regret anything cause we have given our efforts, other speakers are very great, we are actually very surprised.

A2: We have given our best, yeah, we are relived from several things, we are satisfied now

Q4: What have you done to prepare for this competition ?

A1: We actually we have been like practicing for about two months.

A2: Not really two months ,but one month, several weeks.

Q5: I have noticed you have to prepare your speech words in just fifteen minutes, I think that is very stressful .

A12: Yeah it is! Because we got the opening opposition, we really need to think fast, that very difficult.

Q6: Is this your first time to visit Shantou university? (answer: yes) what is your impression to our school?

A1: It is so wonderful, your university have so many foreign teachers, also clean beautiful environment, and so much public art, we heard there is some event about public art, it is so unique.

A2: I think the most beautiful about Shantou university is the people, the students, they are very welcoming to us, also there are very friendly, creative

Q:We are always welcome your, thank you very much. 

Tinsley, Tifani Yuris Signor & Risqy Nur Febrianti



Sherise

Tinsley: Q

Sherise: A

Q1: Can you introduce yourself?

A: I am Sherise from Guangdong University of Foreign Studies, and now I have participated in this debate for two years, it is very I feel very honored to

be here and to participate this event, thanks.

Q2:Do you satisfied with your performance today?

A:Yeah, maybe a little bit of nervous, but I think learned a lot from this also from the judge's feedback ,and by the way I think it is a very good motion, very good motion for us to think about.

Q3: I noticed you have to prepare your speech words just in fifty minutes. What efforts have you made to achieve this?

A:Maybe in the last three months, every day I will spend some time, looking to different kind of motions, and think about how I am I going to analyze this kind of theme, today's motion is more relevant to our daily life because this kind of thing Is actually happen in our society.

Q4: Have you ever debate for an opinion that you are disagree with? How do you over come the difference between you mind and that opinion?

A:Some time I have to take the standpoint that I do not agree to, but It does not mean that principally I would agree to this kind of things but in that and to give some more things relevant to this debate, all in all , I think sometimes it just like a performance. 

Tinsley & Sherise



Cindy&Nancy

Macao polytechnic institute

Mary: Q

Cindy: A1

Nancy: A2



Q1: Was it your first time to compete with international competitors?

A1: This is my second time I think. The first time was in Hongkong and there were some debaters from other countries, like UK or Japan.

A2: And for me, it's actually my first time. Actually, I always take part in the debate competition. So it's not my first time, maybe it's the third or fourth time to compete in English.

Q2: And how do you think of their performance today?

A1&A2 : Really good, excellent.

Q3: Did you make any special preparations for the final?

A1: Yes, we've joined in some of the training in our school team before we came here.

Q4: The school team?

A1: Yeah, in Macao.

A2: We also have the English Debate team.

Q5: And can you show us how you train?

A1: Invite some foreign teachers who have some experience in debate to come and give us some suggestions after our debate. And before debate the captain, our captain will provide some background information about today's motion and after introduce the background information we will give the motion to our students and then they will have to debate and judges gave their feed back.

Q6: Have you ever debated for an opinion that you really disagree with?

A1: Yes.

A2: Always.

Q7: How can you solve this situation?

A2: Because I think everything has... We can not say something is right or incorrect before we really think about it and after many things that we can also find some advantages from a thing that maybe I do not agree with it before but after thinking, I can really agree with it.

Q8: You can also find the opposite way to...?

A2: Yeah. And I think this maybe one basic ability for a debater. And I think every debater can do it.

A1: Because there always the (...?) area for the motion.

Q9: Can you give any advice to the English Festival?

A1: Maybe we can ...Before the competition, we can get to know the others before the competition.

A2: With other team.

A1: Maybe we can make friends or exchange our information. But other parts are really great.

A2: We mean the other. Maybe we can know each other before and maybe we can have some ...Such as a party for us to know the other debaters and I think it maybe a better way for us to enjoy.



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Mary, Cindy & Nancy

Liz&Tinna

Shantou University

Mary: Q

Liz: A1

Tinna: A2



Q1: Was it your first time to compete with the international competitors?

A1 & A2: Yeah.

Q1: And how do you think of their performance today?

A1: They did really a good job and they gave a lot of sort on this motions and we think we have a lot of things to learn from this.

A2: And so their piece is very convincing and actually I think they talked about what they really want to show on this motion, so that's why I think they made very extraordinary performance today.

Q2: Did you make any special preparations for the final?

A1: Yeah, we have been practiced a lot like we'll try to practice the some motions and about debate and also try to... there' re still some practice to improve English. You have to make the preparation for the final because we know that's the contestants were really strong.

A2: And I think we also practice for the... like the cooperation of our teamwork and I think it's also different from other contest. Uh... We should like ..uh.. some preparation in the mental perspective .

A1: We should have a strong mind.

A2: We should face many audience. It's very different from other exercise that we've got.

Q3: Have you ever debated for an opinion that you really disagree with?

A1: Yeah, we have made a lot of situation like this .Like the motion is quite different from what we want to say. But like in the competitions, you have always to stand by your side and to state the opinions.

A2: That's what skill a debater should have this skill too,or the ability to handle because...

A1&A2: Even if you don't like it . You have to convince yourself.

A2: That's it states that what I want to say.

Q4: But how can you get the things to support the opinion that you think it's not right?

A1: You just to change the positions just thinking you are very agree with these ideas and can think...

A2: First motion. The motion that it can be a motion. It controversial that we have the reason to talk about. And the second is if we have the reasons about the motion it is nothing absolutely right so if you do this you can .

Q5: Can you give any advice to the English Festival?

A1&A2: We hope before the English festival there will be more things about debate competitions to help people know it . 



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Mary, Liz & Tinna

Singing Final

Mary 徐曼倩 (2019) ,Tinsley 丁小燕 (2019)

Kenshin Ozaki

Kyoto Sangyo University

Tinsley: Q

Kenshin Ozaki: A

Q1: How do you feel now? Are you satisfied with your performance?

A: Good! I think I do not care the result, just enjoy the performance. All the performance is very good. It is ok.

Q2: I have noticed you are quite professional singer, did you specially learned how to sing?

A: No, I just learn it by myself.

Q: That is very talented.

A: Thank you

Q3: Is this your first time to visit Shantou university?

A: No, this is the second time, last I participated in the same contest, but this year it is getting better.

Q4: What is your impression to Shantou university?

A: Many people.

Q: You do not have many people in your school? (laugh)

A:no, no, no hahahaha 

Tinsley & Kenshin Ozaki
v



Jeson on the stage

Jeson

Shantou university

Tinsley: Q

Jeson: A

Q1: How do you feel now? Are you satisfied with the result?

A: Yes! I am very satisfied with my result. I think everyone sang so well.

Q2: Do you have the intention to be a professional singer?

A: No, I just sing it for fun, if you do something professional, it will be a lot of pain

Q3: Tonight when you are sing the love song to your girlfriend on the stage, what are you thinking at that moment ?

A : I am thinking of her

Q: What are you thinking? (to Jeson's girlfriend)

Jeson's girlfriend: I am enjoy the moment

A: It is like a movie.

Q4: Yes, I saw somebody posted some videos on the Moments, they say it is just like a movie

A+Jeson' girlfriend: Thank you thank you.

Q5: do you think you are a romantic person?

A: Maybe I am

Jeson' girlfriend: Yes, he is. 

Adler Chen

Guangdong University of Foreign Studies

Mary: Q

Adler Chen: A

Q1: How do you feel when you get the champion?

A: Well, I think it is such an unexpectedness you know. And before the trip to Shantou what I expected was to have a picture with the famous sculpture besides your library and expected to enter the library if I could. But neither of them was achieved, so I don't think I can win the prize before the trip, so I think it was just a coincidence.

Q2: How do you think [What do you think of] of other competitors' performance today?

A: Really well, their voice were very unique.

Q3: Why did you choose this song?

A: Because it can express my feeling and try to be free when I be tracked in the challenge or something else and

Q4: Can you give any advice to the English Festival?

A: I think the whole festival was well held, but only one small thing that I think can be advanced is the singer's voice wasn't really well in the morning. I think the rehearsal should be put off to the afternoon or the evening ... so I think it is a little bit unreasonable to put the rehearsal in the morning. 🌈



Adler Chen on the stage



Mary & Elys
v

Elys

Seberas marete university, Indonesia

Mary: Q

Elys: A

Q1: Was it your first time to compete with Chinese competitors?

A: Yes, of course. And also it was my first time I took part in singing competition.

Q2: How do you think your performance today?

A: I think I'm so nervous because it's my first time and I actually have a stage like.. I feel so nervous on the stage than I joined competition and I can be more confident that and I felt so happy that I met a lot of people. I made new friends and I know the Chinese culture, It's different from my culture.

Q3: Why do you choose this song?

A: Because I'm the big fan of (Mona...?) so I chose this song, so I can master this song well, because I love this song.

Q4: What's your first impression of this song?

A: I think it's attract me, I want to be brave like that, so I love to challenge myself, so I think I am connected with it. It's really be sang with me like something from the song.

Q5: Can you give any advice to the English Festival?

A: I think me as a guest, I felt so welcomed here, and I think everything is perfect especially for the guest. We were treated well with the place we fixed in and... The friendly people and alloh, I'm speechless now... 🌈

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