

Name: _____ Class: _____ ()

Tuesday English News Report: Broadcast Date: 7th Feb, 2017

Anything but minor

Hillary Yip is the CEO of MinorMynas, a business that helps children to learn new languages, which is pretty impressive; what's even more amazing, as junior reporter Catherine Wong found out, is that she is not even a teenager yet

Hillary, 11, is a Hong Kong-based business owner who has redefined what it means to be a young and successful **entrepreneur**. Along with fellow young business whizz, Sasha Varlamov, she led the MinorMynas Fireside Chat for Kids event on January 14, an event space in Central which was filled with primary and secondary school students eager to learn from a panel of **seasoned** professionals. Some notable lessons from the discussion included the tremendous value of **persistence**.

Hillary, a student of Kellett School, is the CEO of MinorMynas, for which she was named the winner of the 2015 AIA Emerging Entrepreneur awards. MinorMynas is an online educational platform that facilitates language learning opportunities for kids of all ages. Through live video classes, children can engage in conversations to learn different languages from one another.

MinorMynas has a working website and is currently in the process of expanding – the MinorMynas app will launch later this month.

At first glance, Hillary does not look like the CEO of anything – yet once you get the chance to sit down and talk to her, the **fierce** intellect and **drive** that's helped her **helm** an entire company quickly becomes apparent.

Hillary says that MinorMynas was simply a natural extension of her creativity. She was able to draw on her own ideas and experience over time when managing her own company. She also stresses the importance of believing in your own ideas. Hillary has had to learn how to **embrace** her talents as a writer and public speaker, and learn how to **channel** that into her work.

Hillary is an **avid** reader and also loves to write short stories and she notes there are many **parallels** between creative writing and launching a business. “When problems arise, you have to think about how you can solve them creatively. I usually think about how, in stories, there's always a problem and a way to overcome it.”

Hillary has already mastered the art of gaining respect. “People do take me quite seriously, but you need to prove you are worth their time.” Hillary also notes that much of her success can be attributed to support given by her mentors and parents.

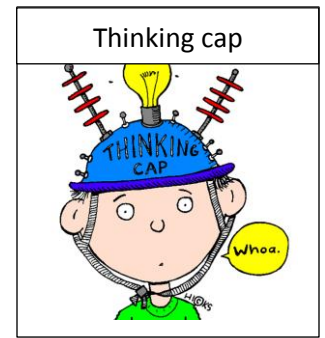
No matter where Hillary goes from here, you can be sure her future is going to be anything but minor. Watch this space.

Adapted from the article in the Young Post which appeared on January 22nd, 2017.

For more information about MinorMynas, have a look at the website: <http://www.minormynas.com>

Questions to think about:

- What makes children/people like Hillary Yip different from others? What makes them successful? Who else comes to mind when thinking of people who have been successful from a young age?
- Are there any drawbacks (problems) to success/being someone like Hillary Yip? If yes, what are the drawbacks?
- What can you learn from this story and how can you apply these lessons to your life?



I: Understanding meaning of vocabulary from context: Choose the word or phrase which most closely matches the meaning of the word in the article. Circle the correct letter.

Word from article	Meaning		
1. entrepreneur (n)	A. a person who sets up a business	B. a leader or manager of a company	C. an employee of a company
2. seasoned (adj)	A. flavoured	B. with regards to the weather	C. very experienced
3. persistence (n)	A. determination	B. the act of easily giving up	C. chasing after
4. fierce (adj)	A. tame	B. strong and powerful	C. aggressive
5. drive (n)	A. a trip or journey	B. an inability to keep going	C. determination and ambition to achieve
6. helm (v)	A. lead or manage	B. steer	C. a tiller or wheel
7. embrace (v)	A. accept willingly and enthusiastically	B. hug	C. include or contain
8. channel (v)	A. copy or learn from	B. use with a particular aim	C. communicate or discuss with
9. avid (adj)	A. disinterested	B. impatient	C. enthusiastic or eager
10. parallel (n)	A. side by side of the same distance	B. similarity	C. difference

II: Usage of vocabulary: Fill in the missing words of the sentences below using the vocabulary (1-10) from column A. You will not need all of the words. Make sure your answers are grammatically correct.

To become a successful person in the business world, or in order to set up a business as an (a) _____, you need to be (b) _____, in other words, keep trying when the going gets tough. Even many (c) _____ and experienced businessmen suffer failures, but their (d) _____ or powerful ambition and (e) _____ to succeed means they are often able to overcome any obstacles or problems. They (f) _____ their energies to make sure of the best possible outcomes (results). In fact, they welcome and (g) _____ challenges or difficulties. Being at the (h) _____, or in other words, being a leader of a successful business, gives them great satisfaction. Unsurprisingly, you can find many (i) _____ between successful people of different industries whether it be business, the arts or sports.

Challenge of the week:

PRIZES TO BE WON

- (a) What is the meaning of the name of Hillary Yip's business, MinorMynas? Look at the two words it is made up of. (*Of course, there is an easy way to find out the meaning!*) Why do you think she chose this name?
- (b) What is the meaning behind the title of the article 'Anything but minor'?

ENGLISH CORNER CAFÉ IS ALWAYS OPEN ON A TUESDAY FOR DRINKS, SNACKS, CONVERSATION & GAMES