



學。子。園。地

北加州中國文化常識比賽記

Records of the Northern California Chinese Culture Competition

培德男校 提供 PROVIDED BY DEVELOPING VIRTUE BOYS SCHOOL

謝阜庭15歲 培德男校9年級

八歲時，我從臺灣來到美國，轉眼已在聖城讀了七年的書。雖然在學校天天有中文課，但是對於中國文化，卻還沒有很好的概念。當老師告訴我，必須代表學校參加中國文化常識比賽時，我一直不停的埋怨，為什麼不找些中文比我更好的同學去呢？

原來全美中文學校聯合會為鼓勵在美國長大的小孩學習中國文化，所以變更了今年的比賽規則，參賽者必須在美國連續住滿六年，我剛好符合這個條件。另一個因素是，男校是超級迷你學校，如果我不參加，也可能會組不成隊。

文化常識的正式課程，是從三月中旬開始。起初因為大家對中國文化、歷史、地理都很陌生，又不肯自己找些時間來研讀，一個月下來，我們還是迷迷糊糊，老師一問三不知。後來老師把課程加多，同時對我們的要求越來越嚴格，並且說：「老師不是要教你們去拿第幾名。但是既然要參加比賽，就必須用積極負責的態度，做好準備功夫，這是你們真正需要學習的地方。如果賽前你們的程度還是這麼差，就不必浪費時間和精神去比賽了。」

一語驚醒夢中人，從此每個人都發憤用功。春假時，我們都犧牲了假期，每天在學校上兩小時的課。因為這是團隊比賽，除了個人表現，還需要練習團隊的默契。在這十天內，大家都非常投入，學習的興趣也越來越濃厚，所以進步神速。老師說：「你們是太聰明了，就怕你們不肯用功。」

中國文化的範圍非常廣泛，上至天文，下

MICHAEL HSIEH, 9TH GRADER, DEVELOPING VIRTUE BOYS SCHOOL

At the age of eight, I came to the United States of America. In a blink of an eye, I've already spent seven years studying in the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas (CTTB). Even though I've had Chinese class in school everyday, I feel I have little knowledge of Chinese culture. When the teacher told me that I was going to participate in the Chinese Culture Competition, I couldn't stop complaining. Why didn't the teacher find someone else who is better than me in Chinese?

The reason was that the Association of Northern California Chinese Schools (ANCCS) wanted to encourage children who grew up in the US to study Chinese culture, and so they changed some of the rules in the competition this year. The competitors this year had to have lived in the US for at least six years. This meant that I was qualified. Also our school is really small, so if I didn't go there might not have been enough students to form a team.

Our Chinese culture class started in the middle of March. At first, we were not familiar with much Chinese culture, history, or geography, and none of us wanted to spend a lot of time to study it. A month passed, and we were still rather confused. When the teacher tested us, we were unable to answer most of his questions. Later, the teacher increased the class time and became stricter about the class. He even said, "I am not teaching you just so that you can win. Since you signed up for the competition, you should have a more responsible attitude. You must prepare yourself for it; you need to learn responsibility. If your level of understanding is still really poor before the competition, then don't waste your time and energy to participate in the competition."

It was as if we had just been awakened from a dream; everyone started to put their energy into studying hard. During spring break, we sacrificed our vacation to spend a couple hours in school everyday for this Chinese culture class. It was a team competition, and not only did we need the skill of each individual, we needed teamwork. After ten days, everyone was really into the class and our interest in Chinese culture had increased greatly, as well as our knowledge of it. "All of



至地理，從古到今，無所不包。本來我們認為是個很枯燥乏味的課，可是當興趣被引發出來後，發覺它真像個大寶庫，非常引人入勝。老師用種種不同的方式，讓我們把朝代、人物、時間、空間和事物結合起來，一篇篇精彩的歷史故事，就活生生在我的腦海中開演著。

出發前，老師告訴我們，大家在比賽前已做了最好的準備，盡了自己的責任，比賽的成果並不重要，即使失敗了也不用氣餒，我們要恭喜別人，表現出良好的風度。所以一路上我們說說笑笑，放鬆自己，感覺不出一點比賽的氣氛。

劉親智14歲 培德男校9年級

五月二日終於來了！天氣很好，真是比賽的好日子。

到聖荷西時，已經十二點了，我們到比賽會場附近的一個公園吃午餐。在車上，我們吱吱喳喳的講個不停，兩位老師頭都痛了。

。等到坐下吃飯時，反而感覺有一點緊張，我沒有吃很多。阜庭好像一點事都沒有，還吃了三個便當盒的麵呢！

到了一點，我們到比賽會場報到。今年最特別，總共有十四個隊參加，抽籤分成四個組，每組取前二名進入複賽。很快發現我們是在第一組，也就是第一個上場比賽的四個隊。

在臺上時，我心裡想著：「假如輸了，怎麼辦？會不會令老師及父母們失望？」可是，比賽的問題對我們來說，都已經很熟悉。

，雖然別的隊實力也很強，搶答搶得很兇，我們還是很順利的進入複賽。

複賽時，從晉級的八個隊又抽籤分成兩組，再取前二名進入決賽，我們和女校在同一組。這場比賽結束時，男女校很幸運地脫穎而出，同時進入決賽。司儀宣佈說：「培德中學太厲害了！他們男校、女校自相殘殺，竟然還可以同時入選。」

決賽時，我們都覺得有佛菩薩保佑。就像有一個選擇題，問最近上太空的中國人是誰，必須說出答案和答案號碼才算答對。我知道答案，因此還沒聽完問題，我就按鈴，雖然知道

you are really intelligent, and the only thing to worry about is whether you work hard or not.”

The content of Chinese culture is very broad. It includes science, geography, etc. and it ranges from history to current events; it includes almost everything. We originally thought this class was going to be dull and boring, but when our interest was aroused, we started to think of it as if it was a fascinating treasury. Our teacher used various methods to teach us how to connect our knowledge of the dynasties, famous people, places, time and events together, so they became stories that we were very familiar with.

Before leaving for the competition, our teacher told us that since we had already tried our best in preparing ourselves, we should just do the best we could. The result of the contest was not that important. We should not be upset if we lose, and we should congratulate those who win. During this trip, none of us were worried about the contest and we had a great time.

QIN ZHI LAU, 9TH GRADER, DEVELOPING VIRTUE BOYS SCHOOL

So, at long last, May 2nd came. The weather was exceptionally good, and it was a good day for a competition.

When we arrived at San Jose, it was already noon and so we went to a nearby park to have lunch. Since we had done a lot of talking in the car, the two teachers accompanying us had headaches. After we sat down to eat, I was quite nervous about the competition, and so I did not eat a lot. Michael, on the other hand, acted as if nothing was happening and ate three containers of noodles!

At one o'clock, we went to the site of the competition to sign in and register. This year was special for there were fourteen teams competing, and these fourteen teams were divided into four groups (by drawing straws). From each group, the top two would advance to the semifinals. We happened to be in the first group, so we were one of the first four to compete.

On stage, I was wondering: "What if we lose? Will we disappoint our parents and teachers?" Luckily, we were all very familiar with the nature of the questions, and so we did pretty good, even though the other teams were very aggressive too. So we got in to the semifinals.

During the semifinals, the eight teams that advanced from the initial competition were divided into another two groups, and as before, the first two teams would go into the finals. During the semifinals, we and the Girls' School both got to the top two places in the same contest. The MC said, "Wow! Developing Virtue School is strong indeed! Both the Boys and Girls have duked it out, and both can now go to the finals!"

Now, when the finals came, we all felt the Buddhas and Bodhisat-



答案，糟了！我可不記得答案號碼！靈機一動，就猜了一個「2，楊利偉」，哇！真的猜中了！大家都難以置信，全場一陣爆笑聲和驚嘆聲。因為我們隊上的同學都表現得很好，終於得到了第一名。

比賽後，才發現原來會場正後方是個大佛堂，非常的莊嚴。我們都進去禮佛，並且做了功德迴向。真是不可思議啊！

陳奕誠17歲 培德男校11年級

決賽後，勝負已定，男女校分別獲得第一、二名。我們都很興奮，一個多月以來的辛苦努力，總算沒有白費。這個比賽，讓我體會到「一分耕耘，一分收穫」的道理。頒獎時，在很多掌聲鼓勵中，我們感到很光榮，因為我們不只代表培德中學，也代表了萬佛聖城的教育成果。

其實這次比賽，參加的隊伍實力都不錯，大家對中國文化都有很好的認識。贏得了第一名，並不代表我們就是最強；這只表示我們已「過關」了而已。我覺得這個比賽的宗旨非常好，能夠讓學生深入的瞭解中國歷史、地理、風俗、倫理、醫學、科學、文學、哲學等，也激發大家學習中文的興趣，而且整個過程緊張刺激，實在是很好玩！

比賽後，我們還是很興奮，一路上都在談論比賽的經過。在這次比賽中，我們從中學到很多的知識和經驗，這是最珍貴的收穫。

尤其是這個比賽不是光靠一個人就能獲勝，必須四個人同心協力，才能有所成就，也讓我們學習到培養團隊精神的重要。

得到北加州文化比賽第一名，這只是參加全美比賽的第一步而已，所以我們還要再接再厲，充實自己。最後我要感謝我們的中文老師，非常用心及嚴格的教導；也要感謝家長們熱心的支持，讓我們有一個圓滿成功的比賽。

tas were watching over us. For example, there was a particular multiple-choice question that asked, "Who was the first Chinese citizen in space?" Now, for multiple-choice questions, you have to say both the answer and the answer number. I knew the answer, but before the question was finished I hit the buzzer. Oh no! I had no idea what the number was! So I guessed. "2, Yang Liwei" was my response and amazingly I got it right!" The crowd exploded with applause and gasps. All the people on the team gave a good performance, and we got first place.

After the contest was over, we found out that the room directly behind us was a Buddha Hall, and it was very adorned. We all went in to bow to the Buddhas, and to transfer merit. It was very inconceivable indeed!

GROVER CHEN, 11TH GRADER, DEVELOPING VIRTUE BOYS SCHOOL

After the finals, our victory was assured, and the Boys' School and the Girls' School got first and second place respectively. Our group was very excited, for after a month of hard work, our effort had finally paid off. This contest made me realize the meaning of "You reap what you sow." During the award ceremony, we felt honored to receive such applause. Why? Not only did we represent DVS, we also showed everyone the educational achievements of the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas.

In fact, all the participants in this contest were very good, and everyone had a very good understanding of Chinese culture. Winning first place didn't mean that we are the strongest; it just meant that we had passed. I think that the purpose of this contest is great; it can enable students to further their understanding in Chinese history, geography, culture, ethics, medical science, science, literature, and philosophy, and also increase everyone's interest in Chinese studies. The whole process was intense and exciting, and it was fun as well!

After the contest, we were still excited. On the way back to the City, we kept discussing the experiences we had in the contest. We had gained a lot of knowledge and experience during this contest, and I think that is the most precious. In this contest, we could not rely on just one person; rather, all of us had to work together. Only then could we accomplish something. We learned the importance of teamwork.

Winning first place in this Northern California Chinese Culture Competition is just the first step to the national competition. Therefore, we have to make additional efforts to improve ourselves. Finally, I would like to thank our Chinese teacher for teaching us strictly and diligently, as well as our parents for supporting us enthusiastically, thereby enabling us to have a successful and satisfying competition.